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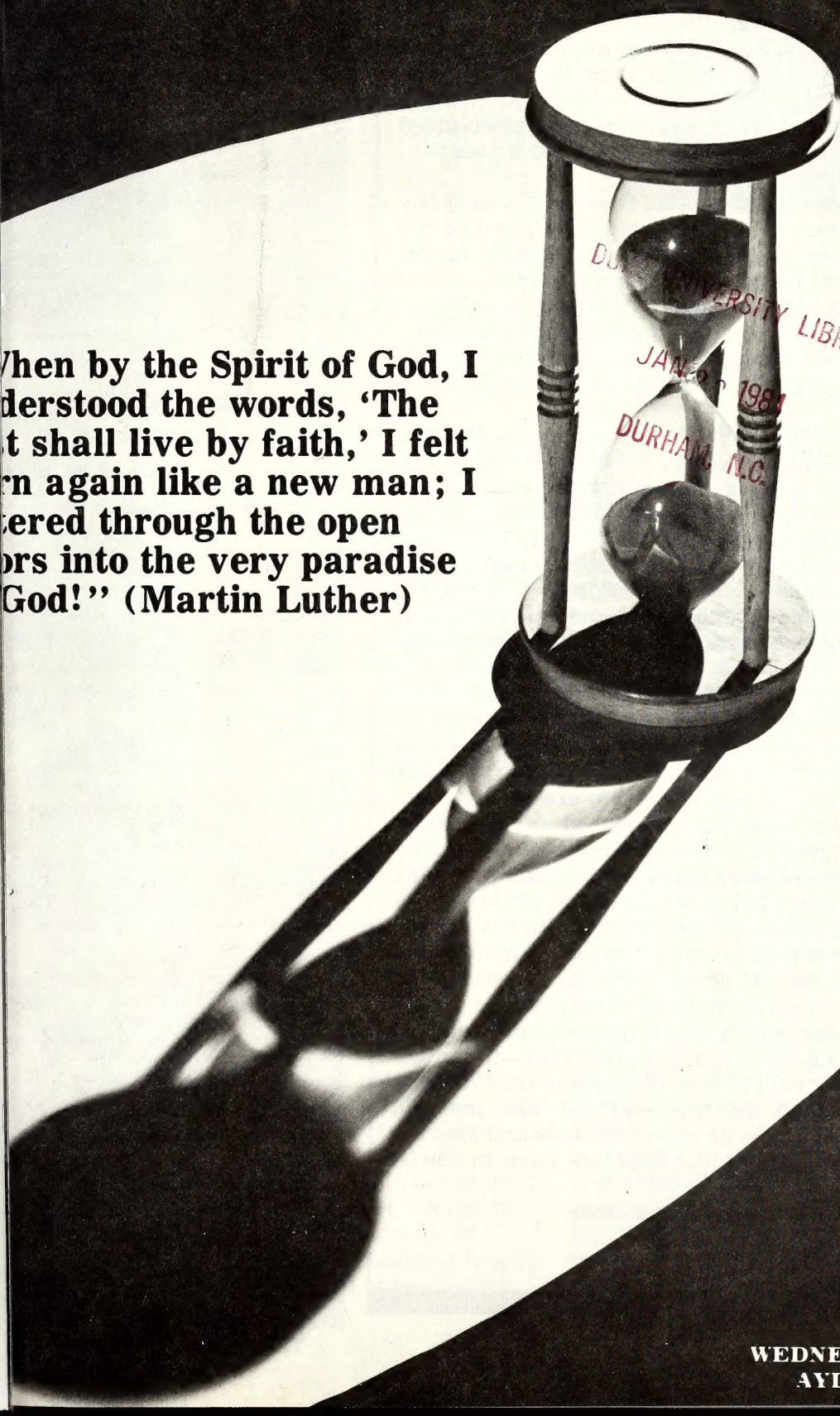
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—The Free Will Baptist

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When by the Spirit of God, I derstood the words, 'The t shall live by faith,' I felt rn again like a new man; I tered through the open ors into the very paradise God!" (Martin Luther)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Future Is Now

Confrontations. Calamities. Refugees. Winners and Losers. Comebacks. Excesses. Many terms can be used to describe the year 1980. We voiced our frustrations concerning the Iranian crisis; we watched with disbelief as Mt. St. Helens erupted "with a blast as powerful as the largest hydrogen bomb ever exploded." The free world "longed for peace" as Russian troops invaded Afghanistan, and Polish workers provoked the Soviet Union. We have all fallen victims to inflation and its symptomatic high prices; angry workers even marched on Washington when the jobless rate reached 7.8 percent. Cattle died, crops withered, and people suffered during one of the worst droughts ever experienced by western and southern regions of the United States . . . and the list goes on.

The year was 1212. The place was Europe. A young boy named Stephen had become caught up in the spirit of the Crusades; so caught up, he took a cross and started marching to the Holy Land. Soon, thousands of children (some think as many as 30,000), started following this lad who promised to lead them over the mountains, through the seas, to God. Stephen and his army of children marched through the countryside carrying wooden crosses and singing, "We are going to God!"

Many historians believe Stephen was met with such enthusiasm because the boys and girls were tired of watching their sheep and working in the fields. Inspired by Stephen's call to adventure, they sought to escape reality. Did they succeed? No. They met with evil in Genoa and Venice. Slave traders carried many of the boys and girls to Egypt; some of the children became ill and died; others were robbed and molested. Disillusioned and discouraged, a few of the children turned back without a cross, without a song, without hope.

How often we wish we could change things; how often we think things are better "on the other side of the fence." The past has not been all good, but neither has it been all bad. We have much to be thankful for. We need to think about where we have been and where we are going. In so doing, we cannot, we must not, disregard reality. As a church, we need to learn from our mistakes—and our victories—and move forward. **You** and **I** need to answer God's call; we need to get to work, for, Brothers and Sisters, there is much work to be done. At the present time we have churches without pastors and fields without missionaries. The evangelistic fervor of years gone by needs to be rediscovered, for at times it looks as though we no longer care about our God, our church, our neighbors, ourselves.

The year is 1981. Let's make it a good year—it can be. We must not let the events of 1980 discourage us. We must not become disillusioned like the children who followed Stephen years ago. Let's take up our **cross** daily and sing the **song** of victory which tells of the **hope** we have in Christ Jesus.

Brothers and Sisters, we do have a cross.
We do have a song.
We do have hope.

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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January 7, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

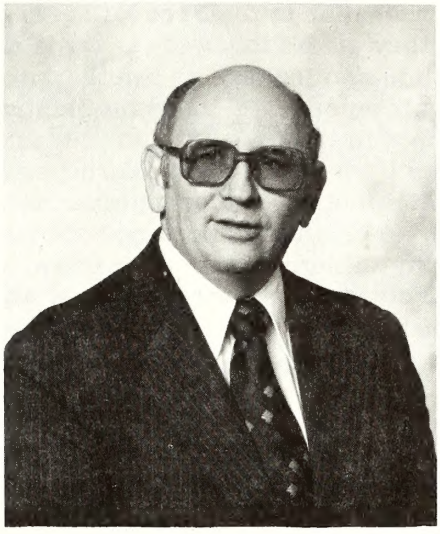
New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m. —5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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D. W. Hansley, President; Fred Rivenbark, Vice President; Hubert Burres, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Robert May, and Dewey Boling.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Acting Editor of Literature.**

REDEEMING OUR DISCIPLESHIP



by David Charles Hansley

I believe that the time has come for us as a church to take some ction. Don't you? What I mean by taking ction is simply this: to get our church back on e track of successful achievements. Acording to our Constitution and Preamble, we re to advance, promote and increase the ause of Christ. To accomplish this requires ersonal involvement in the spiritual process.

Jesus, speaking on an occasion to the Jews ho had decided to follow His way, instructed em to become really involved in the process nd development of discipleship. Jesus said (in ohn 8:31): "If ye continue in my word, then re ye my disciples."

I would like to ask three questions:

1. Are we truly continuing in the Christian faith?
2. As a church of the Lord Jesus Christ are we really truly growing toward Christian maturity? Are we putting away childish things and becoming men of the gospel?
3. Are we today willing to truly become His disciples and win the lost at any cost?

Let's make use of six words quickly. With hem we can find ourselves moving in and ward genuine discipleship. We can redeem ur discipleship.

(1) The first word I would like to use is the ord REMOVE. We need to remove the ills of tagnation. The way we remove such ills of tagnation is by facing them and taking a head-n attack and allowing the spirit of motivation of Jesus Christ to wake us out of our sleep. We must move forward with a thrust of determination as did the Early Church at Antioch. For we are a peculiar people, and as such, we are a people with a positive approach to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Let us not be sidetracked by the ill will of the devil so that we stop that approach—losing our faith, not venturing for the cause, finding ourselves asleep, becoming stagnant. Let it be known today that we are stirring the waters of life and that we are presenting to people the real water of life. We need to remove the ills of stagnation and move forward toward the cause of Christ and continue in His work.

(2) Second, we need to REGAIN LEADERSHIP, the leadership as a church that we ought to have in this wonderful State of North Carolina. We need to regain our leadership by returning to the Word of God. Disciples are leaders. Leaders are those who show themselves approved as workmen. We need to regain not only the leadership, but in doing so, to regain our heritage. We regain our heritage by returning to the real reason for our State Convention. I trust that all of you read my editorial in **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST,** in which I mentioned Asa Garris, whose 1898 resolution began the movement toward a State Convention. It finally came into being in 1913 as a result of Dr. E. L. St. Claire's later resolution, in 1912. He believed that in order to increase our Zion and to get our brethren together there had to be a single body, united in one convention. He set forth the action, and

(Turn the Page)

here we are today. We need to regain that kind of leadership. Three reasons for the need of such unity are pointed out in Brother Cherry's book, **Introduction to the Free Will Baptist Church;** they are as follows: (1) the loose organization and the lack of togetherness in the Union Conference, (2) the need for a stronger organization in the Union Conference and among the Free Will Baptist churches so that they could effectively labor together in the vineyard, and (3) the importance of better planning in that organization for the work and the cause of Christ. All three of these were a sign of maturity. We need to regain that heritage. We need to regain our leadership. I would challenge you today to regain such leadership. You as ministers and delegates and members of the churches and visitors of all of our churches in the State of North Carolina ought to demand that the Executive Committee of this Convention get busy and immediately get someone in the office of General Secretary because for every year we go without it we fall back three. Demand that it be done and go back to your churches and undergird such a program with your prayers that we may go forth and create the system that we need to continue in His Word. We need to regain our leadership.

(3) The third word—we need to REMEMBER. We need to remember what God in Christ has done for us, to recall the vows we made to Him in that high moment when we first gave our hearts to Him. We need to remember what we said to Christ Jesus when He called us and say it all over again: "I'll go where you want me, I'll do what you want me to do." We need to cry out with the men of old, "Purge me with hyssop and cleanse me" that I may go forth and continue in Your Word and become the disciple You want me to be. We need to remember how His blood has cleansed us from our sins. We need to remember where He said, "Go in my name," and we need to go. We need to remember that the Word says, "Ask and ye shall receive, knock and it shall open," but we also need to remember that we need to seek Him with all of our soul, mind and strength.

(4) To continue in His Word we will need to RECOVER our Christian discipline. This is indispensable in our time. Preachers as well as members need to remember what we did when we came to Christ and joined the Original Free Will Baptist Church and declared that we adopt this church covenant, and accepted it as our guide to live by. We need to understand that by accepting that church covenant with an oath to God in front of the congregation we agreed to support every enterprise and institution of our denomination. Then we have the nerve to go out and say don't support them and don't be a part of it because I don't like some of the things they are doing. That is to say I do not agree with my church covenant. We need to recover our Christian discipline and understand that the covenant is part of the discipline of our church and we need to get to it and obey it.

(5) We need to RECOMMIT our life—not for a day, but for all of our life. Every Christian ought to begin with a recommitment of his life at this Convention. Preachers need to recommit their lives in our denomination. People elected to a committee, board or office at this convention or at a conference or a local church need to give of themselves not because they may be paid mileage or don't get paid mileage, but because they are doing that which Christ called them to do. They are to give of their lives to do that which they were asked to do. We need to serve, and do, and act or we need to resign and make way for others who will do, and serve, and act. Ministers need to recommit their lives to service, to serve Christ as they chose to serve Him through the Original Free Will Baptist Church. Some of them say, "I get tired of hearing denominationalism. I accept my Lord and Saviour to be my redeemer, and I said, 'Lord, I will serve Thee with all that I have and give you my life'; now how will I do it through the Original Free Will Baptist Church?" Let us continue in the Word and be loyal to the Word, but let's do it as loyal people in the denomination and not try to build dominions or mountains like other people are doing, but let's build the church that Christ would have us to build and remember as we recommit our lives to continue in His Word that we can become real disciples.

(6) Last, but not least, we need to REKINDLE. We need to rekindle people's confidence in the institutional church by reasserting our personal role in the spiritual process. We need to rekindle the flickering fires of faith, for nothing else is so necessary as allowing the Holy Spirit to renew our faith in God, our devotion to Christ, and loyalty to our church. We have waited too long for others to step in and get our church back on its course. Now it is up to us as individuals, pastors, churches, conferences and this Convention. The action steps are spelled out in these six words.

We need to:
REMOVE the ills of stagnation
REGAIN our leadership
REMEMBER God in Christ
RECOVER Christ in Christian discipline
RECOMMIT our life
REKINDLE the flickering fires of faith.

Therefore, I challenge this Convention to adopt the theme for the '80's that you see

(Continued on Page 15)

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1981—A NEW BEGINNING

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

THE year 1980 has ended. What we have written, we have written, and it stands. The year cannot be recalled; for good or bad, it is gone, and gone forever.

If we look back on 1980 with satisfaction for the use we made of it, let us be thankful; if we review the year with regrets because of either what we did or because of what we failed to do, let us seek forgiveness. In either case, let us not be trapped by the past year; it is gone and we can no longer live in it. The New Year calls, and we must go forward. "Behold, I make all things new," says our Lord.

The New Year:
A New Beginning

We may enter the New Year with uncertainty or perhaps even fear. No one **knows** what awaits us. Many people have concerns about their physical health or the health of a member of their family; some people face the year with broken relationships with their husband, wife, child, parents, or friend; questions of financial security are uppermost in the minds of many; personal decisions we fear to discuss with anyone confront us; and the issues of war and peace hang over the entire human race. "The trouble with the future is that it is not what it used to be," declared Robert Mayer Evans, a former foreign correspondent for CBS.

To those who face 1981 with fear, the thoughts of M. Louise Haskins speak with deep meaning:

"And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
'Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown'!
And he replied:
'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.
And He led me toward the hills and the breaking of day . . . ."

I like that expression, "the breaking of day." A new day, a new year—these are new beginnings God gives, and I like new beginnings. A new year is a time to start over, a time to wipe the slate clean, a time to begin again.

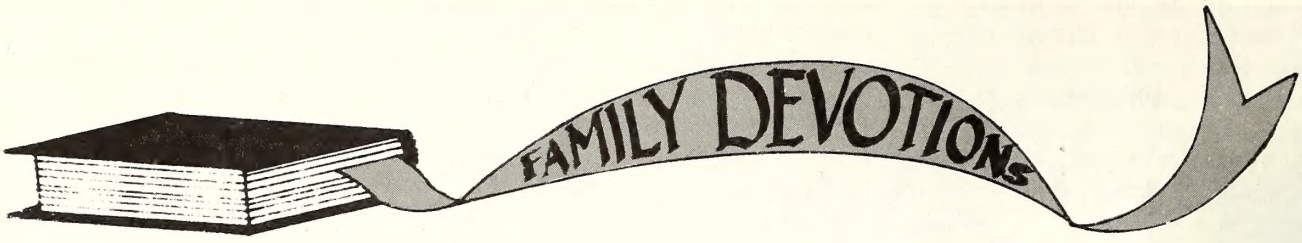
After all, the Christian life itself is a new beginning wherein God creates us anew. It is a time to start over again, not on our own but with God. "Behold, I make all things new." It was in this spirit that I became a Christian. It was as a teenager, nearly forty years ago at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina, that on a New Year's Eve night I knelt beside my bed and prayed the most important prayer of my life:

> Father, I have tried and failed to be the person You want me to be and the person I want to be. I want to begin the New Year with a new life, and I want to begin it with You. Here I am. Take my past and forgive it; take my future and make it what You want it to be. I give it all to You.

That night I had a new beginning and because of that experience the New Year is like a spiritual birthday. He who makes all things new

(Continued on Page 15)

"Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5).



SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 5:4

TOKENS OF THE NEW MORALITY

In *Chicago Today,* Harriet Van Horne editorialized, "In Central Park, New York, they're now chaining trees and shrubs to the earth. The idea is to outwit thieves who dig by night.

"The tokens of the new morality are at every hand. Nearly 200,000 school windows in New York City are smashed every year. A Manhattan hotel lost $500,000 worth of spoons, finger bowls, ash trays and such items during its first six months in business. And pilferage in stores—from news dealers to department stores—now runs to $1 billion a year!

PRAYER THOUGHT

"If some day soon the Lord smites us with plague and pestilence, let no man say we didn't have it coming."

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19

ACTS SPEAK LOUDER

After spending four months with David Livingstone, Henry M. Stanley, journalist, wrote, "I grant you he is not an angel, but he approaches to that being as near as the nature of a living man will allow."

Later, in speaking of his conversion, Stanley said, "It was not Livingstone's preaching that converted me. It was Livingstone's living!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Said Mohandas Ghandi, "A rose does not need to preach. Its fragrance is its own sermon."

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

"NOTHING SHALL DETRACT"

When Leonardo de Vinci was forty-three years old, the Duke Ludovinco of Milan asked him to paint the dramatic scene of Jesus' last supper with His disciples.

Working slowly and giving meticulous care to details, he spent three years on the assignment. He grouped the disciples in threes, two groups on either side of the central figure of Christ. Christ's arms were outstretched. In His right hand, He held a cup, painted beautifully with marvellous realism.

When the masterpiece was finished, the artist said to a friend, "Observe it and give me your honest opinion of it."

"It's wonderful!" exclaimed the friend. "The cup is so real I cannot divert my eyes from it!"

Immediately Leonardo took a brush and drew it across the sparkling cup! He exclaimed as he did so, "Nothing shall detract from the figure of Christ!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

For God's children to live radiantly and victoriously, they must say, "That in all things he (Christ) might have the preeminence" (Colossians 1:18b).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:1-12

NO PLACE OUT OF BOUNDS

In *Listen to the World,* Gordon Winch said, "In the future, less and less evangelism will be done at the church building. It will be rather a crusade in which to participate. No place is out of bounds for him who is mastered by the living Christ.

"A half-drunk woman had repeatedly observed a minister come and sit among the drinkers. She finally said to him, 'I know why you are here. You are here to represent Jesus!'"

To reach the unreached, unchurched, and unsaved multitudes, Christians must emulate the example of the Saviour, who mixed with the multitudes and ate with publicans and sinners but never partook of their sins.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christ never commanded sinners to go to church. Instead, He commissioned the church to "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

Scripture Reading—Matthew 16: 17-19

A CRUMBLING CATHEDRAL

Through the centuries, St Paul's Cathedral in London England, has survived many

perils. It has been destroyed by fire several times. Oliver Cromwell used it as a cavalry barracks and stabled horses inside its massive walls. The Germans bombed and fire-bombed it during World War II.

Now St. Paul's is in serious danger. Its enemies are air pollution, vibration of heavy traffic passing alongside, and the eroding teeth of time. The damage is extensive and almost irreversible. Its walls bulge outward, and the twin bell towers are leaning away from each other. Cracks and faults run like jagged streaks of lightning down the outside walls.

The cathedral's chief surveyor, Berhhard Feilden, said, "The face of St. Paul's is literally washed away by erosion, which comes from sulphur dioxide. There is nothing we can do to change it. The only thing we can do is to stop it from getting worse."

PRAYER THOUGHT

In time, all stone-and-mortar edifices crumble into dust. The church which Jesus founded of born again believers—"lively (living) stones" (1 Peter 2:5)—*will endure: "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:18b).

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:4

DISPIRITED AND DEJECTED

One day a Christian businessman in New York City entered the office of Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. He was so dispirited and emotionally disturbed that it was difficult for him to speak.

Kindly, Dr. Peale asked, "What's the trouble, my friend?"

He replied, "My business has so preoccupied my time that I am on the verge of a nervous breakdown. The daily routine has so gotten on my nerves that I am fearful of a crackup. I have consulted with my physician and he said that if I don't get help, I'll succumb to one of three things, or maybe all of them: stomach ulcers, high blood pressure, or heart failure. He suggested that I seek your help."

Dr. Peale knew that the distraught man needed a continual, abiding trust in his heavenly Father.

Opening his Bible, he read some verses which emphasize the precious Father-son relationship that Christians have with God:

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12).

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God . . . and joint-heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:14, 17a).

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust" (Psalm 103:13, 14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Why should Christians succumb to "the spirit of heaviness" (Isaiah 61:3) *and become discouraged?*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 61:1-4

"OUT OF THE DEPTHS . . . I CRIED"

Years ago a young Baptist minister and one of his close friends were out hunting. As the minister crawled under a barbed wire fence, his gun accidentally went off. The discharge struck the leg of the friend who bled to death before he got to a hospital.

The young minister was so overwhelmed with sorrow that his church gave him a leave of absence. Seeking to allay his grief, he visited his mother in North Carolina but to no avail.

Finally returning home, he said to his wife, "I am going into my room to pray, and I will stay there until I find relief. I will not be available to callers. Don't let anyone come in."

For three days the young minister confined himself. When he finally emerged, the sorrow which had overwhelmed him was gone! His face shone with radiance! He had met personally with Christ, the One who gives "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness" (Isaiah 61:3b).

This experiential meeting with Christ was an epochal event in the life of Dr. George W. Truett, who was the young minister. On the following Sunday, he stood in his pulpit, in the First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, a new man—changed by an in-depth acquaintance with Christ.

PRAYER THOUGHT

". . . LORD, be thou my helper. Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness . . . I will give thanks unto thee for ever" (Psalm 30:10-12).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet on Monday, January 19, 1981, in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston, North Carolina. Any and all persons having business with the board are invited to meet with us at this time. The meeting will be at 10 a.m.

W. H. Willis
Secretary

Cragmont Assembly

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

October, 1980

Checking Account Balance 10/1/80 $3,898.36

RECEIPTS

Albemarle Conference		
Hickory Chapel		
Laura Wiggins' Bible Class	$25.00	
YFA and AFC	82.00	$ 107.00
Cape Fear Conference		
Palmer Memorial	75.52	
Hopewell		
Sunday School	49.72	
Woman's Auxiliary	100.00	
Lee's Chapel	1,044.84	
Sunday School	36.39	
Wooten's Chapel	60.05	1,366.52
Central Conference		
Greenville, First		
Willing Workers Sunday School Class	30.00	
Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	10.00	
Elm Grove	20.00	
Marlboro	175.00	
Grimsley	50.00	
Hugo	125.00	
Reedy Branch	25.00	
Sunday School	16.00	
Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	20.00	
Central Conference Laymen's League	135.31	
Black Jack	110.00	
Roanoke Rapids, First	6.88	
Tarboro, First	200.00	
Dilda's Grove	45.90	
Friendship	25.00	
Howell Swamp	100.00	
Bethany	125.00	
Daniels Chapel	250.00	
Friendship	1,000.00	2,469.08
Eastern Conference		
Eastern Conference	174.85	
Juniper Chapel	25.00	
Beulaville	200.00	
Third Union District	50.00	
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	10.00	
Davis	100.00	
Oriental	10.00	
Bridgeton	21.00	
Folkstone	50.00	
Pilgrims Rest	10.00	
Third Union District Sunday School Convention	25.00	
St. Mary's	197.50	
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	25.00	
Piedmont Conference		
Piedmont Conference	200.00	
Western Conference		
Calvary	100.00	
Piney Grove	50.00	
Senior Sunday School Class	10.00	
St. Mary's Sunday School Class Number 5	25.00	
People's Chapel	25.00	
Fremont		
Auxiliary	100.00	
YFA	100.00	
Milbournie	37.50	
Spring Hill		
Alma Dale	100.00	
Rock Springs		
Sunday School	50.00	
Unity (Durham)	75.00	
Stoney Creek	2,000.00	
Micro		
League YFA	20.00	
Watson's Grove	50.00	
Sherron Acres	125.00	
Free Union		
The Rev. and Mrs. Lester Duncan	50.00	
Others		
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	5,337.68	
Golf Tournament Proceeds	965.00	
Friendship League	60.00	
Edward's Real Estate	1,000.00	
Charles Gray	100.00	
Oscar and Elizabeth Whitley	50.00	
Total Receipts		
Total to Account For		

DIS

Employee Benefits	
Golf Tournament	
Travel Expense	
Literature	
Accounting System	
Transfers to:	
Building Fund	$10,789.68
General Savings	6,986.10
Total Disbursements	
Checking Account Balance 10/31/80	
Building Fund Balance 10/1/80	
Transfer from Checking	10,789.68
Interest Earned	137.79
Building Fund Balance 10/31/80	
General Savings Balance 10/1/80	
Transfer from Checking	6,986.10
Transfer from Other Funds	20.00
General Savings Balance 10/31/80	

Total of all funds on hand in corporate account 10/31/80 $33,144.35

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Watson, Treasurer

898.35

200.00

2,917.50

7,512.68

15,471.14

$19,369.50

TS

$179.16
536.08
115.56
198.42
364.50

17,775.78

$19,169.50

200.00

10,149.50

10,927.47

21,076.97

4,861.28

7,006.10

11,867.38

News from

Home Missions

by Taylor Hill

MISSION WORK MOVING TO WINSTON-SALEM



Jerry Campbell family

With the purchase of a home and a place of worship, the Rev. Jerry Campbell and family will be moving to the Winston-Salem area to begin work at our newest mission point. The new mission is located on Highway 40 west about 10 miles out of Winston-Salem.

Brother Campbell is an active member of the Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church and a minister in good standing with the Western Conference.

The Home Mission board solicits your prayerful support for Brother Campbell and his family as they begin this new work. Brother Campbell and his family expect to move after the first of the year.

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH



Thelma Rulli



Gertrude Ballard

MEET OUR RETIREES

January is Retirement Homes Month. We would like for you to meet our retirees. Say hello to them with a card or letter today. Their address is: PO Box 250, Middlesex, NC 27557.



Clyde and Lois Vowell



Bonnie Farmer

(Winifred Holt not pictured)

CALLING ALL MEN!

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist Layman's League is attempting to determine the number of Layman's Leagues or Men's Fellowships which are currently active throughout the state. The purposes of the Layman's League are (1) to further the cause of Christ throughout the world by the unity and cooperation of the men of the church, (2) to increase our knowledge of the church and her institutions and enterprises, (3) to generate a spirit of Christian fellowship, and (4) to work for the general welfare of the church.

When men stand up for Christ, things begin to happen. It is with this belief that the Executive Committee has begun its mission to not only determine the current status of the Layman's League but also to foster the establishment of a Layman's League program in churches where the men are not yet organized.

A group of interested men met with the Executive Committee on November 18, 1980, in Kinston to begin planning the development of the Layman's League in North Carolina. Those present were Lloyd Hobbs of Newton Grove, J. T. Wilson of Vanceboro, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin of Newton Grove, Ervin G. Foreman of Washington, Charlie J. Keech Jr. of Pinetown, Octavus R. Wallace of Pinetown, Garland Jarman of Pinetown, Dallas G. Foreman of Washington, Kenneth R. Willoughby of Washington, Danny Kirby of Fremont, Harry F. Hinson of Fremont, and L. G. Creech of Newton Grove. The members of the Executive Committee are J. M. Langly, 602 Sorey Avenue, Tarboro, NC 27886 (823-2356), Henry P. Beaman, Route 1, Snow Hill, NC 28580 (753-4263), and Tommy Benson, Route 1, Box 193-AA, Kenansville, NC 28349 (296-1337).

The Executive Committee requests that **all** churches complete the form below and return it to one of the three men on the committee. Your help in this matter and your prayers of support will be greatly appreciated.

Name of church: _____

Address of church: _____

Conference of church: _____

Pastor of church: _____

Do you presently have an organized men's group meeting at your church? _____

If so, what type organization? (Layman's League, Men's Fellowship, other) _____

If not, would you be interested in receiving help in establishing a men's organization? _____

Comments: _____

_____

Board of Superannuation Proposed Insurance Group

The Superannuation Board mailed letters and information on November 10, 1980, concerning the formation of a Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance group. A response was required from all Original Free Will Baptist ministers by December 15, 1980. However, the Board did not qualify for this insurance group because all the ministers did not respond; less than 38 percent of our ministers replied making it impossible to even determine eligibility. The Board recommends to those who were interested in this group to seek coverage from other sources.

CHURCHES PARTICIPATING IN THE WIDOW'S FUND

Please note that one minister has died since our last announcement; the Rev. Lloyd Vernon died December 21, 1980. Gifts of $50 are now due from those churches participating in the program. Please respond accordingly.

Churches will be notified through **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST** when a participating minister dies.

COMING EVENTS

January—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Retirement Homes Month

January 17—Central District Youth Fellowship, 7:30 p.m., Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, Bear Grass

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. C. Bryant Hines Jr. wishes to announce his change of address. His old address was Route 7, Box 154, Goldsboro, NC 27530. His new address is Route 9, Box 138, Goldsboro, NC 27530; phone, 778-6740.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For January 18

PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM

Lesson Text: Matthew 9: 35—10:1, 5-15

Memory Verse: Matthew 9:37, 38

I. INTRODUCTION

Matthew recorded in detail the teachings of Jesus (Chapters 5-7) and the compassionate concern of Jesus (Chapters 8, 9). He told of Jesus' helping the neglected people—a leper (8:1-3), a demoniac (vv. 28-34), a paralytic (9:1-8), a woman plagued by a long-time disease (vv. 20-22), two blind men, and a man who could not speak (vv. 27-34).

In the midst of these caring activities, Jesus made it clear that following Him would not be easy. When a certain scribe declared, ". . . Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest" (8:19), Jesus replied that He had no place of protection from opposition as did the foxes and birds (v. 20).

When someone else said, ". . . Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father" (8:21), Jesus said, ". . . Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead" (8:22). In that reply Jesus was saying that those who wished to be His disciples had to establish priorities.

What kind of ministry was Jesus referring to that would not allow Him protection from opposition and that demanded priority from those who would follow Him? It was the ministry of a balanced proclamation that will be discussed in detail in our lesson today.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. For the last two weeks, we have been studying portions of Jesus' great Sermon on the Mount. Today, we move further into the ministry of Jesus and take an overall view of His ministry, see something of the needs of the multitudes around Him, and see how Jesus called and commissioned the twelve to carry on His work.

B. We will miss the whole point of the lesson if we fail to see the pattern that Jesus established for the carrying on of His ministry in the world after His departure from the world. He gathered about Himself the twelve and taught them and trained them in the work in order that it might go on. Each generation is to do this for the succeeding generation. It is a chain that must not be broken.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. John the Baptist had created quite a stir among the people by declaring that Christ was about to appear and would soon establish the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. When Christ did appear and began His ministry He proclaimed that the kingdom was at hand. From that time to this, the message of the kingdom has been emphasized by the truly evangelical church.

B. Preaching the gospel to the lost is a never-ending task for the followers of Jesus Christ. The Great Commission has never been withdrawn. We are not expected to win every person in the world to Christ—a task quite impossible—but we are commissioned to proclaim the gospel in all the world, showing that the kingdom is at hand and will be in readiness to receive all believers until Jesus returns.

C. As Jesus selected His followers and sent them forth to witness, so He sends you and me. The mark of success in witnessing for Jesus is self-denial. We must be willing to deny ourselves the selfish desires of the flesh in order that the desire of our Lord may be fulfilled in our discipleship. We will see in this lesson how Jesus instructed His followers in the art of soul-winning, and will also see what will be required of us if we hope to meet with success in it.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

D. In His earthly ministry Jesus set for His disciples an example, and each generation of Christians is responsible for taking that message into the whole world. If the message of the gospel is what brought civilization to the world and lifted men out of heathenism, then we are never more than one generation from heathenism. When we fail to reach one generation, we are back into heathenism again.

E. When Jesus was here on earth in a physical body, He had a three-fold ministry: healing, preaching, and teaching. Of course, we are not God and there are some things that Jesus did we cannot do, but we can have a healing ministry. Look at some of the illnesses the church can heal: loneliness, hunger, discouragement, depression. Although we are aware that this matter of healing has been abused and perverted, we must not forget that the church should have a healing ministry today.

—The Bible Teacher F.W.B.)

Current Happenings of

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NEW CREATIONS ANNOUNCE SPRING SEMESTER SCHEDULE



The New Creations, a 10-member gospel-witnessing team of students at Mount Olive College, have announced their schedule for the spring semester. Under the direction of Miss Caroline Castelloe, Director of Counseling Services at the College and advisor to the group, the New Creations will travel throughout the state performing for various churches. Free Will Baptists are encouraged to attend these services whenever possible.

The schedule for the New Creations through March 22 is as follows:

Date	Time	Place
January 18	11:00 a.m.	Edgewood Free Will Baptist (Crisp)
	7:00 p.m.	Piney Grove Free Will Baptist (Kenly)
January 25	11:00 a.m.	Smyrna Free Will Baptist (Beaufort County)
	7:00 p.m.	Sound View Free Will Baptist (Newport)
February 1	11:00 a.m.	Sidney Free Will Baptist (Belhaven)
	7:00 p.m.	Pine Level Free Will Baptist (Pine Level)
February 15	11:00 a.m.	Faith Mission Free Will Baptist (Leland)
	7:00 p.m.	Pleasant Grove Baptist (Fayetteville)
February 22	11:00 a.m.	Wesley's Chapel Methodist (Spivey's Corner)
	7:00 p.m.	Johnston Union Free Will Baptist (Smithfield)
March 1	11:00 a.m.	Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist (Bear Grass)
	7:00 p.m.	Woodrow, First Free Will Baptist (New Bern)
March 22	11:00 a.m.	Bethel Free Will Baptist (Four Oaks)
	7:00 p.m.	Antioch Presbyterian (Rosewood)

COLLEGE ANNOUNCES SPRING SEMESTER

Classes for the 1981 Spring Semester will begin on Wednesday, January 14, and will continue through Wednesday, May 14. The class schedule includes a wide variety of course offerings for both day and evening. Evening classes will be offered in Business, English, Science, Religion, and Psychology. Persons interested in day or evening classes should contact the Admissions Office at (919) 658-2502.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Saint Paul's Free Will Baptist Church, located in Elizabeth City, will observe "College Day" on Sunday, January 11.

The Rev. Joe Griffith, pastor, announced that Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 9:45 a.m. and speak during the 11 a.m. worship service.

IN MEMORY OF JASON RAY DAVIS

SON OF SHERRIE AND REX DAVIS

Now we lay little Jason to sleep
In a beautiful rose garden at our Father's feet.
We loved him and miss him, but we understand why,
This beautiful rose You could not deny.
His family all miss him, it really is sad
For Granny and Pa Pa, his mom and his dad,
Aunt Jennifer, Uncle Jesse, Donnie, and big brother Chad.
Please love him and rock him, dear Father above,
Kiss him good night and give him our love.

Love, Granny
Mrs. William V. Hill

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JANUARY **RETIREMENT HOMES** MONTH

MINISTER'S SPIRITS ARE GOOD

The Rev. Taylor Hill underwent major surgery on Thursday, December 18, 1980, in Cape Fear Valley Hospital, Fayetteville, North Carolina. At the time of this printing, he is at home and anticipating further treatment at Chapel Hill.

A personal note from Mr. Hill follows.

> I want to thank everyone for their faithful prayers and concern during my sickness. I had no idea that I had a brain tumor until the day before my operation. The doctor told me it was the worst kind so I had better be doing a lot of praying. I understand that many pastors and lay persons prayed hard and earnestly for me, and I appreciate it from the depths of my heart. I'll be taking chemotherapy at Chapel Hill and I am expecting good results. Whatever happens, I am not afraid.
>
> *Taylor Hill*

As you can tell, Mr. Hill is in good spirits. If you would like to contact him, his address is Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, NC 28305.

Mr. Hill serves as the Executive Director of the Home Missions and Church Extension Department of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He also pastors Haymount Mission in Fayetteville.

WHY NOT JOIN?

Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. We suggest your church consider the Bundle Plan, by which a 50-percent discount is given when churches have the paper sent to one individual (or address) in lots of 25 or more, who in turn distributes them. Churches are billed quarterly (or yearly, if they prefer) for subscriptions. Sometimes, auxiliaries take this on as a project.

Flood's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Spring Hope has now joined the group of nine churches and two missions who are presently participating in this subscription plan. The other participants are: Baptist Cathedral, Durham; Beaufort Mission, Beaufort; Branch Chapel, near Selma; Friendship, near Middlesex; Free Union, Spring Hope; Heritage Mission, Charlotte; Highland Pines, Hamlet; Little Rock, Lucama; Spring Hill, Goldsboro; Saint Mary's Grove, Benson; and Saint Paul, Elizabeth City.

Why not make your church a member of this distinctive group? Discuss the plan with your church membership.

For more information write or call the Subscription Department, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513; phone, 746-6128.

1981—A NEW BEGINNING

(Continued from Page 5)

gave me a new life, a life with a purpose.

Goals:
Pressing Toward the Mark

Most of us would like to know what awaits us in 1981, but no one has that knowledge. A veil of darkness lies over the future, but the darkness is not to be feared. "Put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

When we put our life in the hands of God, we put it in the best place it can be. The road ahead may not be easy—it certainly was not for Jesus—but we can know that even when we walk through the dark valleys we are not alone. "For lo, I am with you alway," said Jesus, "even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

Our calling is not to be afraid but to "press toward the mark for the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). God has a purpose for our lives, and the fulfillment of that purpose should be our goal. Regardless of what we may attain, a life that is not lived for God is a wasted life.

The years pass swiftly, and no one knows how many he has left. Shortly after I finished college and was in my first resident pastorate, I was called to the home of a member of the church who was in her final illness. As I stood by her bed I noticed these words on a plaque over her head:

"I shall pass through this world but once.
If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do, let me do it now . . . for I shall not pass this way again."
(Etienne de Grellet)

We have only the time God gives us, but He will give us enough to do the work He has assigned us. With the dawn of a new year He has given us a new beginning, a new opportunity to fulfill His mission for our life. Life is too precious to be wasted. Let us put our hand into the Hand of God and go forth to our work, and when we have reached the goal of our calling, we can join the Apostle Paul in saying:

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ALICE E. DALE

The Lord called one of his faithful servants home on October 2, 1980. She was Alice Elizabeth Dale, who was 92 years old.

Born in Greene County, she worked as a housemother at the Free Will Baptist Orphanage in Middlesex. For several years she worked at Kennedy Home in Kinston and then as housemother of the nurses' home of Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville. She had made her home in Rocky Mount for the past eleven years with her sister, Emma Dail Waters.

Aunt Alice was a member of Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church and a faithful supporter of Mount Olive College. It was through her generosity that I was able to attend Mount Olive College. She enjoyed the fellowship of Christian friends for several summers at Cragmont Assembly. Aunt Alice was one of the most vivid examples of daily Christian love I have ever known and she will be missed by family and friends.

Services were conducted October 4, 1980, at the Farmville Funeral Home with the Revs. L. B. Manning, C. L. Patrick, and Donald Fader officiating. Interment was in the Dail family burial grounds near Snow Hill.

Ann Dail Rhodes
A great-niece

REDEEMING OUR DISCIPLESHIP

(Continued from Page 4)

behind you now ". . . To continue in His Word that we may be His disciples" and to let the world know that we are His disciples. There is an urgency for patient continuance in well doing. Let's renew our discipleship to advance, promote, and increase the cause of Christ. May God bless you is my prayer.

The above address was delivered during the Sixty-Eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists by the Rev. David Charles Hansley, Convention President. During the Convention, Mr. Hansley was elected to serve another two-year term as President.

NOTE OF THANKS

To my many friends, churches, auxiliaries, I say thank you for the gifts and checks from North Carolina and Georgia. Your thoughtfulness and kindness to me will always be remembered. The many Christmas cards were beautiful. May God bless each of you in the years to come. Pray for me, that I may live closer to God than I ever have. A special thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Lightsey in Georgia.

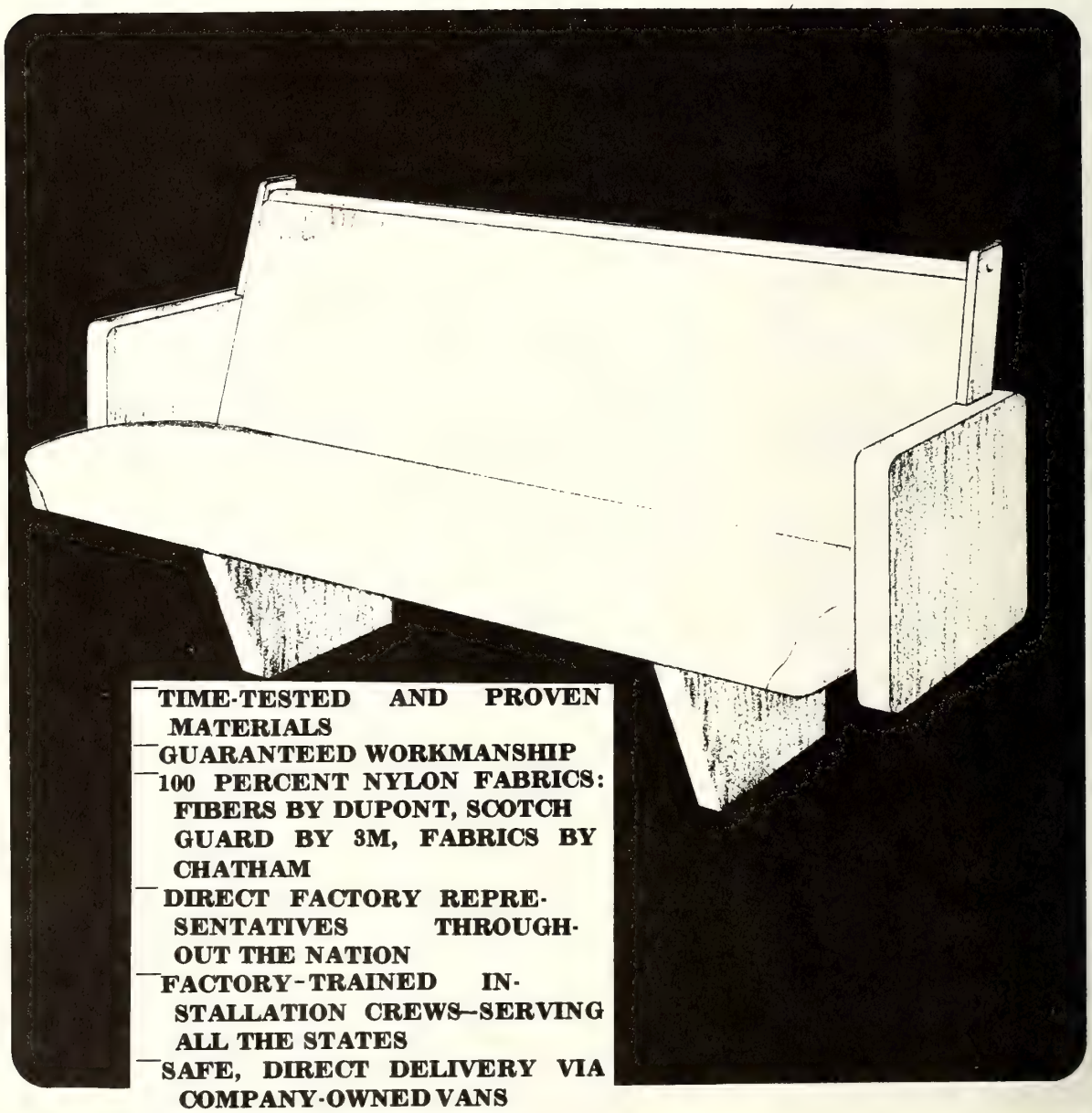
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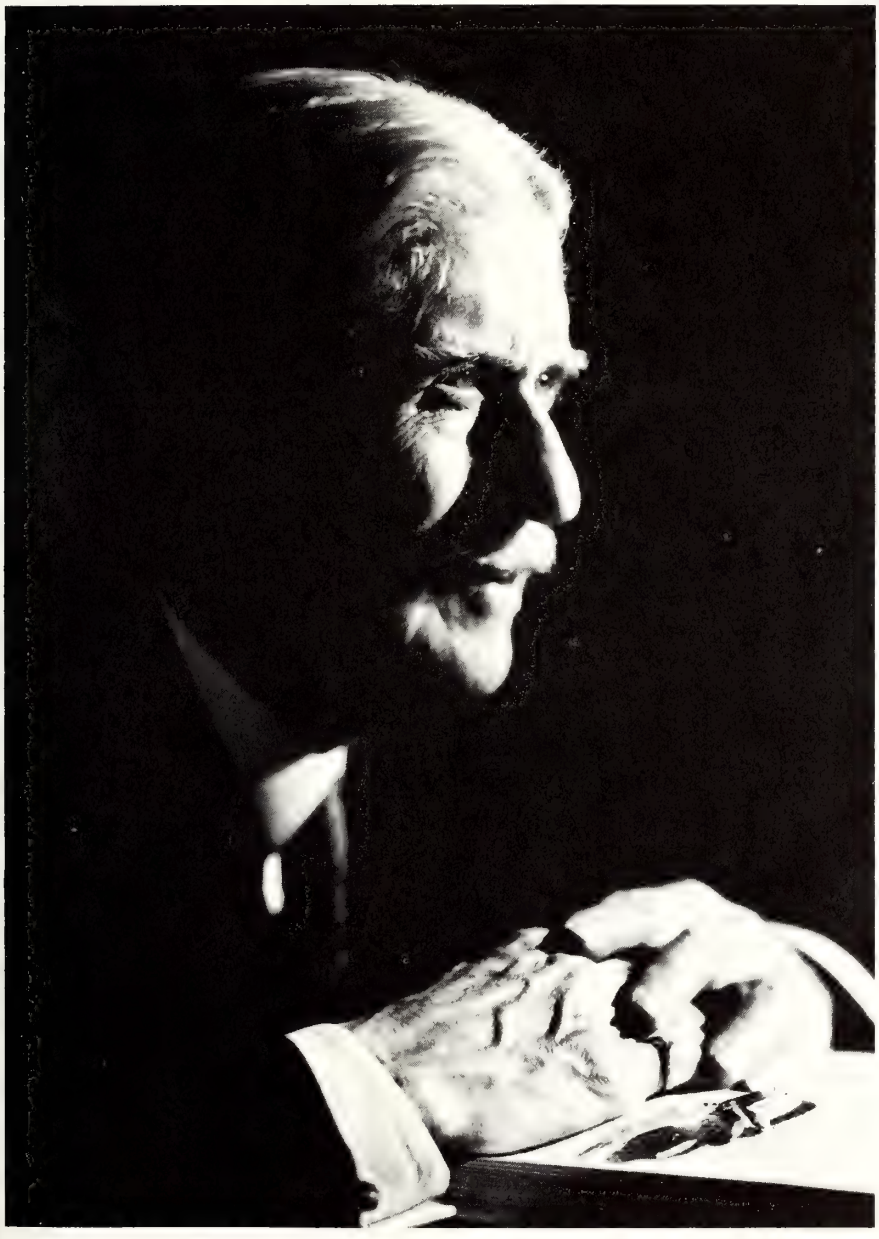
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"People who flourish in retirement are those who have a strong sense of identity and purpose, whose main concern is for the whole of mankind. But retirement does mean a change. And change is difficult for almost all of us."

COULD IT HAPPEN? SHOULD IT HAPPEN? WILL IT HAPPEN?

Guest editorial by J. Stewart Humphrey



Could it happen? Could there come a time when the Children's Home will be gobbled up by our ever-growing Retirement Homes? No, it is not likely that Retirement Homes will ever totally consume our Children's Home, nor should that happen!

The ministry of child care is unique, as is its counterpart, retirement. In order to fulfill God's will for our church we must and **should** have **both** a Children's Home and the Retirement Homes.

Will it happen? No! What will happen, if the population shift in this country continues as it has for some time now, is that there will be an ever-decreasing need for large campus-type child care programs like ours at Middlesex, while at the same time there will be an ever-increasing need for retirement facilities.

The cost and expertise needed to operate a child care program fine-tuned to meet the needs of today's child will be expensive and will necessitate children living in smaller groups. We need a strong child care program designed to meet the needs of children from birth through college. We are well on our way to that goal and, God willing, we will achieve it.

The need to keep the groups small and the addition of foster care to meet the needs of under-school-age children and those with special needs will allow us to use more of our existing facilities for retirement without sacrificing the goals we set long ago "to provide a Christian Home for boys and girls."

The events of time and God's wisdom in leading us into a retirement ministry in 1974, I believe, should be looked upon positively. We can provide care for the families and children in the next generation, as well as for our senior citizens.

Could it happen? No! Should it happen? No! Will it happen? No! Because Free Will Baptists have always been committed to doing God's will. Child care is God's will for us. The need will eventually determine which program will be the larger, and if we give the needs of people our attention God will bless all our efforts attempted in His Holy Name!

Cover Photo by Ewing Galloway

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Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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The Rev. Lloyd Vernon

(December 13, 1894—December 21, 1980)

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College



The Rev. Lloyd Vernon, first president of Mount Olive College, 1952-54, died December 21 at the age of 86. Funeral services were conducted December 23 at Howard-Carter Funeral Home in Kinston by his pastor, the Rev. Sheldon Howard of Northeast Free Will Baptist Church near Mount Olive, and Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. Burial was in Pineview Cemetery near Seven Springs, North Carolina.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Elva S. Vernon of the home; two daughters, Mrs. Joseph Bryan of Windsor, Virginia; and Mrs. J. D. Murray of Newport News, Virginia; a step-son, Victor Moore of Wilmington; a sister, Mrs. Edmund Loftin of Mount Olive; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Vernon was ordained a Free Will Baptist minister on October 20, 1911, and was a life-long member of the Eastern Conference. He served as president of Mount Allen Junior College (now Mount Olive College) during its first year of operation at Cragmont Assembly (1952-53) and during the relocation of the college in Mount Olive (1953-54).

HE Rev. Lloyd Vernon was a husband, a father, a hurchman, a minister of the ospel, and among Original ree Will Baptists he was one man in a thousand."

Today, we have gathered not o mourn his death but to give hanks for his long and useful fe. The passing of one we ve is a painful experience, ut God never intended that ain should rob us of His joy.

"The Lord God omnipotent eigneth" (Revelation 19:6) is he overarching message of he Bible. It is a message that Brother Vernon believed; it is truth on which he staked his fe.

Why should we be sad when od takes a body that is "full years" and disabled and ives us a new body that is not ubject to suffering and in-rmity?

Why should we be sad when od translates us from the ortality of this life into ternal Life?

Why should we be sad when great soldier of the Cross ns the battle and is called to ceive the crown of life?

Why should we be sad when good and great man has filled the mission of his life d goes home to be with his mily?

Why should we be sad cause God has called other Vernon to come up her to a better place where re is no sorrow, no more n, no more criticism, no re death? Pain that he has us? Yes, but not sorrow.

On this day, let us pray that the beauty of the Lord our God will be upon us; and that God will establish in our midst the work of the hands of Brother Vernon. And what a work it was!

- —A faithful minister of the gospel for 69 years;
- —A record of pastoral service to 25 churches, one of which, Bethel in Johnston County, he served for 30 years, and another, Whaley's Chapel in Jones County, for approximately 40 years;
- —For half a century he was a strong and influential member of the Board of Ordination of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists; and
- —Other positions of leadership and service included Moderator of the Third Eastern Union Meeting for 21 years, Moderator and Clerk of the Eastern Conference, Director of the Church Finance Association, and the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, and President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

But it was in the field of Christian education that Brother Vernon was to make

(Turn the Page)

one of his most lasting contributions to the life of his church. At the age when many men are beginning to pace themselves toward retirement, he was called upon by his good friend, David W. Hansley, to become the first president of Mount Allen Junior College, now Mount Olive College. The year was 1952, and to describe this adventure, I turn to remarks made by the Rev. A. B. Chandler at a dinner at Mount Olive College in 1974 to honor Mr. Vernon. Brother Chandler was a close associate of Brother Vernon and was a member of that first faculty.

> The opening of Mount Allen certainly was not marked with pomp or pageantry; for even the most avid of its adherents realized that a long and difficult road lay ahead of it.
>
> Brother Lloyd Vernon served not only as president of the infant endeavor, but also as a classroom teacher. The entire faculty consisted of Brother Vernon and one assistant. The student body numbered a grand total of eight.
>
> Brother Vernon and I, along with some of the students who were also in the ministry, had to commute weekly between Cragmont and our churches, which were located in eastern North Carolina. When you consider that this weekly trip consisted of about 800 miles you can gain an inkling of some of the difficulties that were encountered by faculty and students in their efforts to keep a college going at Cragmont Assembly.

At the end of that year it was Brother Vernon, a native of Mount Olive, who identified the old vacant elementary school building in that city as a potential site for the College, and it was while he was president of the Free Will Baptist State Convention in 1953 that the Convention voted to buy this property and to locate its college in Mount Olive.

In 1974 at the dinner in his honor at which the Annie Wiggins and Lloyd Vernon Student Aid Fund for ministerial students was established, Brother Vernon revealed his deep commitment to Christian education by saying:

> I hope this fund will be the means of inspiring someone along life's way to get the proper training before they step into a pulpit. **A call to preach is a call to prepare.**

Brother Vernon wanted the beauty of the Lord to be upon his ministry; he wanted to begin a work that God would establish beyond his years on earth.

When the history of Mount Olive College is written, the name of Lloyd Vernon will be there.

When the history of the Free Will Baptist Church is written, the name of Lloyd Vernon will be there.

Among Original Free Will Baptists, he was "one man in a thousand."

It was under Mr. Vernon's leadership as both president of the College and president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (1953-54) that the town of Mount Olive was selected as the home of the College.

A dinner to memorialize his first wife, Annie Wiggins Vernon (deceased 1974) and to honor Mr. Vernon was held at Mount Olive College June 15, 1974, at which time the "Annie Wiggins and Lloyd Vernon Ministerial Student Aid Fund" was established. Individuals, church organizations and churches served by Mr. Vernon who wish to express their appreciation for his life and services are invited to consider the Vernon Student Aid Fund at the College.

A Thought for After Christmas

"It seems that each year the merchandising interests push the holiday season further back into the summer calendar in an effort to encourage folks to spend to the outer limits of poverty. On the other hand it seems that the church, the organization exclusively authorized and obligated to observe Christmas on a year-round basis, often delays the message until the congregation is holiday-conditioned from the outside. After all, our concern is not altogether to proclaim that Christmas is coming, but to demonstrate to the world its real meaning can be expressed every calendar month of the year."

—David Bar

It's About Time

submitted by Frank Harrison

On my desk is an unusual ock, one of those electronic iniaturized marvels. Cali- rnia time is normally splayed to the right of a all map of the world. But hen I turn a knob, the time in y one of 24 zones around the orld appears in its place and tiny red indicator lights up show where in the world it . For example, at 9 a. m. on Monday in Monrovia, alifornia, it is 6 p.m. in ampala, Uganda, and 1 a.m. a Tuesday at a refugee amp on Indonesia's Jemaja land in the South China Sea.

More than a useful gadget hen international phone calls ve to be made, it is a helpful minder to me that Monrovia, en the United States, is not e center of the universe. The y begins literally on the her side of the world, sweeps estward to us and then yond. It is our day for a hile, and then it is meone else's day. The new ear begins somewhere else d ends somewhere else, but is ours for a—well, for a me. The clock on my desk ys something to me about e timeliness of life erywhere.

The Bible makes frequent ferences to time. My con- rdance gives whole columns passages in which the word ne or its variations are used. ie of the first that comes to nd is Ephesians 5:15, ". . . deeming the time."

Not everyone in the world is time-conscious as we are. t everyone has a wrist- tch, or even a calendar. st tribal peoples cannot tell u how old they are or how many years ago something happened. There is an unhurried flow of life in jungle villages, no signal bells to start or stop things, no schedules that demand obedience, no clocks to divide and subdivide the day. But the more conscious we or they become of the wholeness of earth and the hope of Heaven, the more we appear to become aware of the significance of time. Clocks, though not cataloged as part of the whole armor of God, may be at least a useful piece of the Christian's supplementary equipment.

"Redeeming the time." The time that we do not exclusively own but which circles us, encompasses us, gives itself to us. More consequential than we have supposed is the crime of killing time, of wasting opportunity, of withholding caring, of assuming that the clock ticks only for us and that we have all the time in the world.

The new day, the new year, that wings westward brings with it all the burdens it has picked up along the way, and goes from us carrying our own fallout of good and ill. I turn the knob on my clock and the time appears for Phnom Penh, Cambodia. On this California morning, it is midnight there. At this very moment, children are dying because governments waited too long either to help or to permit help. But **children** is too general a term, too impersonal, too generic. **Children** do not die. It is always a **child** who dies—a child loved by an agonized mother, a child of a father who is himself too weak to struggle for justice, too politically powerless if he did. Thousands of children die, but they die one by one, each an infinitely precious burden small enough for one mother's arms.

I turn the clock to Philippines time. At this moment,

(Continued on Page 15)





SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:1-10

HOW BRIGHT!

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "If a man carefully examines his thoughts, he will be surprised to find how much he lives in the future. His well-being is always ahead."

How bright is the future for God's children: "It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him: for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

Scripture Reading—James 2:17

LEADEN FEET

Of Lot's wife, it has been said, "She walked backward through today, that she might see yesterday's face. She did not know where the change came and she stood solid in one place!"

Some seek to view the future through a rearview mirror. Some stumblingly inch forward on leaden feet when they could "mount up with wings as eagles" (Isaiah 40:31).

Hesitant, irresolute ones incur God's displeasure: "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him" (Hebrews 10:38).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should always try to remain strong in our faith. May it be said in the end that we have kept our faith.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 8:14, 15

TO LOVE IS TO LIFT

Said Bishop J. A. Johnson Jr., "The only way to lift is to touch: 'Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever . . . he (Christ) . . . took her by the hand and lifted her up' (Mark 1:30, 31); 'And he touched her hand and the fever left her' (Matthew 8:15).

"You cannot lift men without touching them. The church must not be locked in its stained-glass fortress where an anemic preacher preaches an anemic gospel about an anemic Christ to an anemic congregation. The church building must be a point of departure into the world, into a dirty here-and-now world to become a contemporary with Jesus in the ministry of suffering and humiliation, love and liberation."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:2).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:3

"I REALLY GOT MAD"

In telling of his conversion, Jack Wyrtzen, founder of Word of Life Camps, testified, "A friend invited me to go to a meeting with him. Dr. Brower spoke on hellfire and damnation. He made me very, very uncomfortable. When, at the end of the meeting, the minister asked those who repented of sin to come forward. I really got mad and ducked out.

"At home that night, I couldn't sleep. I kept thinking about what the preacher said. Finally, in the middle of the night, I got on my knees and confessed my rebellion to God. Then I asked the Lord to forgive me and save me.

"The next morning, I called my friend and said, 'George, I got converted!'

" 'You got what?' he asked.

" 'I got converted,' I reiterated.

"Then George exclaimed 'Wyrtzen, you're the last guy in the world I would have ever thought would get converted!'

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Scripture Reading—1 John 5:3

WHY PETER DIDN'T CRY

When little Peter was hospitalized for the first time for an operation, he was put in a room all by himself, next to a large men's ward. As Mom and Dad left him that night they were worried, thinking that he would cry for them.

This didn't happen. When the nurse turned out the light in Peter's room and walked

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down the hallway, she heard a clear childish voice singing:

Jesus loves me this I know,
For the Bible tells me so!

The eyes of some of the patients who heard the song became moist with tears. They knew that Jesus was near to them, too.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us . . ." (1 John 3:16).

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

Scripture Reading—Job 23:13

MORE TO BE DESIRED . . . THAN GOLD"

his precious Book I'd rather own
han all the gold and gems
hat e'er in monarchs' coffers shone,
r on their diadems.
nd were the seas one chrysolite,
is earth one golden ball,
nd diamonds all the stars of night,
is Book were worth them all!

, no, the soul ne'er found relief
glittering hoards of wealth,
ms dazzle not the eye of grief,
ld cannot purchase health.
t here a blessed balm appears
heal the deepest woe,
d those who read this Book in tears
eir tears shall cease to flow!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Thy word is a lamp unto feet, and a light unto my h" (Psalm 119:105).

TURDAY, JANUARY 24

ripture Reading—Luke 1:4

HE JOY OF CERTAINTY"

ow admirable was the tion of Mildred Cook, an executive secretary and teacher of Bible classes, when she heard the ominous words of her physician: "You have a malignancy! We will do major surgery as soon as it can be arranged."

Calmly she replied, "Well, I am glad at least to know. This must be the way the Lord wants it. I belong to Him—all of me!"

Instantly a wonderful thing happened! Although she had walked with the Lord for more than an half century, at that moment she was strengthened and cheered to an extent she had never known before.

Later she said to her surgeon, "Tomorrow, when you operate, over your skilled fingers will be another hand—the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. I belong to Him. You will be working on His property!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Mildred Cook attributed the all-pervasive quietness which enveloped her to three things: the Word of God, the Saviour, and the Holy Spirit. She had a fresh assurance about the things that matter most—a new joy of certainty.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

The Book Corner

by Bass M. Mitchell

Willimon, William H. and Robert L. Wilson. Preaching and Worship in the Small Church. Creative Leadership Series, edited by Lyle E. Schaller. Nashville: Abingdom, 1980.

This is one of the best works in the Creative Leadership Series. Some of the other works in this series cover such topics as assimilating new members, beginning a new pastorate, the care and feeding of volunteers, creative stewardship, time management, how to lead churches through change, building an effective youth ministry, and church growth. The authors of this particular work are William Willimon, an assistant professor of liturgy and worship at Duke University Divinity School; and Robert Wilson, a research professor of church and society, also on the Duke faculty. The authors provide significant insight into the whole life of the small church, assessing its weaknesses and strengths. They point out that "the small church is perceived by many clergy and lay people to be a less-than-adequate congregation." They examine the reasons for this and offer some positive suggestions for changing this perception. The remainder of the book is concerned with an examination of the basic activities of the small church and some helpful advice about how the laity and clergy can work together to revitalize their church on every level. They look at such subjects as the Lord's Day, the meaning and potential in worship, the Lord's Supper, baptism, weddings and funerals, preaching, lay reaction to the preaching—all within the perspective of the small church; and in the conviction that through its preaching and worship, the small church can be "an effective instrument for ministry."









AFFORDABLE RETIREMENT for FREE WILL BAPTIST FAMILIES

submitted by
Stewart Humphrey

Can you afford to retire? Many people are beginning to wonder if they will be able to retire in comfort, free from worry and want. The cost of housing and utilities is the major consideration.

Recent reports indicate that fewer and fewer Americans will be able to afford their own homes. They will rent all their lives and then, at retirement age, what will they do? Some folks flippantly say, "The government will take care of me." This may be true, but can we be sure and would we even want the care the government would offer us? Most of us are familiar with government housing projects. They start off looking like a showplace, but in a few short years they become a ghetto.

There is an alternative. Private citizens, church groups and cooperatives can pool their resources and build retirement communities designed to meet the needs of their constituency. Free Will Baptists have committed themselves to affordable, comfortable retirement with the establishment of the FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES, INC. at Middlesex. One-and two-bedroom apartments for the ambulatory and planned group facilities for those who need extended care provide a variety of retirement options for our people. Every unit is climate-controlled year 'round. Rooms are spacious and well-lighted.



THE FREE WILL BAPTI

The need for medical care is always a imary factor in planning for one's tirement. Our retirement community is cated near a full range of medical facilities. inics and hospitals are more accessible than we were located in a large city. All services re within minutes of the campus.

Can we afford it? You judge for yourself. dd up the cost of rent, utilities, fire insurance, xes, maintenance, basic appliances and epairs and, if it is less than 25 percent of your come, it will be unusual. To live in our etirement Homes, one pays only 25 percent of s or her total monthly income. This covers e rent, utilities, and all the other factors cluded in the list above. This leaves the tirees with 75 percent of their income for od, clothing, health care and other expenses. ased on all information available to us at this time, this is the best bargain available today in retirement housing.

There is an even greater benefit, one that money cannot buy. Being able to live in a community with people of like faith and interests and from a common background is worth more than words can express. Our Retirement Homes provide just that—Free Will Baptists living together. The campus offers protection in that there are neighbors very near who care. Living alone, far from your next-door neighbor, can be frightening.

Why don't you learn more about our Retirement Homes? Visit soon! Ask the Director to come to your church to share news from the Retirement Homes with your Sunday school class and/or congregation. Remember to support the Retirement Homes in your gifts and prayers.

News of Interest . . .

The Rev. Bailey Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Nathan Perlmutter, the national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, met December 18, 1980, for an open and friendly conversation concerning Mr. Smith's widely reported comments about Jews. Colleagues of both men were present.

Mr. Smith expressed deep regret for any hurt to the Jewish community and stands with them for an American pluralistic society and against anti-Semitism. He also said that if he had it to do over, knowing how it would be misinterpreted, he would not have made those statements. He said he has distinctive theological beliefs that he cannot compromise (he did not alter his viewpoint on God hearing the prayers of Jews), but he stands with the Jewish community for total religious liberty.

The parties agreed that: They abhor, condemn, and reject anti-Semitism; both groups reaffirmed their commitment to their basic theological beliefs without rancor or rejection of each other; both groups have been the victims of religious persecution and, even to this day, suffer persecution in the Soviet Union and other parts of the world.

Authorities recently raided a Bronx, New York, apartment, not to confiscate drugs or guns, but to rescue 62 barnyard animals, the intended sacrifice of a religious cult. Members of the Santera cult "either bite, tear or cut off the animals' heads and drain all the blood from their bodies into vessels on the floor and also drip the blood over different dieties and gods that are on the floor. The Santera cult originated in Africa.

Egypt's Socialist Party (in opposition to the government) has issued a call for the liquidation of Israel and its elimination from the map. It has been declared that "Begin is no more than the chieftan of a terrorist band and Israel was created to be a thorn in the side of the Arab world."

A recent study conducted by a clergyman of the United Church of Christ revealed that if congregations fired their pastors for reasons other than unethical conduct, it usually was not the minister's fault.

Fifty-seven percent of the young people responding to a recent Gallup Youth Survey said that religion can answer all or most of today's problems. "Eleven percent candidly admitted that they aren't sure about the role of religion in today's world. This percentage must be added to one third of the teenagers who see religion as something old-fashioned and out-of-date."

Dr. John R. Rice, founder and editor of **THE SWORD OF THE LORD**, died early Monday morning, December 29, 1980. Dr. Rice had been in the Rutherford Hospital (Murfreesboro, Tennessee) since Wednesday, December 17, after suffering a stroke which left him unconscious.

NEWS & NOTES

Youth Remember Senior Citizens



Left to right: (seated) Leigh Hales and Shari Dyson; (standing) Anita Hales, Jeff Dyson, Eric Pate, Lori Sharpe, president of the YFA; Lori Evans, Mel Warren

The Youth Fellowship Auxiliary of Micro Free Will Baptist Church took bags of fruit and candy to the residents of Colonial Rest Home in Smithfield on Saturday, December 20, 1980.

Fifteen young people bagged 65 bags of Christmas cheer to share with the senior citizens in the home. Mrs. Carolyn Hales, youth director, assisted in preparing the bags for distribution. She converted her kitchen into an assembly line and the YFA turned the task into a time of merriment and love.

The Rev. Leonard Woodall, interim pastor of Micro church, accompanied the group to the rest home.

Plymouth, First Church Has Many Activities

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, won a blue ribbon for entering the most original religious float in the annual Plymouth Christmas Parade. The theme of the float was "God's Gift to the World."

On Wednesday, December 17, there was a cottage prayer meeting held at the home of Mrs. Daniel Windley in Plymouth under the direction of the Rev. Floyd Burkey. Mrs. Windley is an elderly member of the church, who is unable to attend services as she has in the past. The church choir sang Christmas carols and they presented Mrs. Windley with a lovely gift. The fellowship was a blessing to everyone who attended.

The annual Christmas program was presented on December 21 at 7 p.m. Christmas carols were sung and children rendered recitations which were followed by a beautiful candlelight service led by the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey. The theme of the program was "God, the Light of the World." The church was beautifully decorated with holly and greenery, candles and poinsettias. The evening offering was donated to a needy family in the Plymouth area.

A watch night service was held at the church on New Year's Eve from 10 until midnight. There were two hours of singing, praying, testimonies, responsive readings, and sermons. Refreshments were served at intermission time.

The Jerry Taylor Family to Be At Indian Springs Church

The Jerry Taylor Family will be at Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Mount Olive, on Sunday, January 25, 1981, at 7 p.m. They will present a program entitled "Noah's Ark." This program consists of life-size puppets, Bible stories, songs, and comedy. There is Christian entertainment for all ages. Everyone is invited to attend.

FWB Fellowship at ECU

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship at East Carolina University will meet Tuesday, January 20, at 7:30 p.m. at First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville. The topic of discussion will be "Cults and False Prophets." Please encourage Free Will Baptist ECU students to attend. If anyone needs a ride, call 75[illegible] 8585 or 756-6600.

Meeting Planned For Youth Leaders

A leadership workshop has been scheduled for the youth leaders of the Central District on Saturday, January 31. T[illegible]

(Continued on Page 15)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE OFFERS COURSES FOR SPRING SEMESTER

Mount Olive College's Paul Palmer Institute, a program of study designed for ministers and laypersons who "wish to provide well-informed leadership and service in their local churches or who simply wish to enrich their own lives," is offering two exciting courses for Free Will Baptists and the public during the spring semester, 1981, beginning January 19.

A course on the history of the Free Will Baptist Church, to be taught in two segments, is offered for Institute credit, as well as for College credit. Institute students may earn two units of credit, and students taking the course for college credit earn three semester hours. This class will meet on Monday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The first class meeting for "The Free Will Baptist Church, Part I" will be on Monday, January 19. Classes for the second portion of the course, which will cover doctrine, polity, and programs, are scheduled to begin on March 23.

"Church Administration," a second course offered by the Institute, will be taught on Monday evenings immediately following the course mentioned above and lasting until 9:45 p.m. The course, for three Institute units of credit, will cover church organization, funerals, weddings, communion service, and church law.

Paul Palmer Institute courses will be taught by Dr. Michael R. Pelt, Professor of Religion at Mount Olive, and the Rev. Frank Harrison, Chaplain at the College.

For more information concerning the Paul Palmer Institute, contact Frank Harrison, (919) 658-2502, Mount Olive College, 209 North Breazeale Avenue, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

STUDENTS INVITED TO FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP AT MOC

High school students and their parents are invited to a financial aid workshop for students who plan to enroll in any college or university in the fall of 1981. The workshop, "Planning for the Future," sponsored by Mount Olive College, will be held Saturday, January 17, in the Henderson Building on the new campus (adjacent to the intersection of Highways 117 and 55).

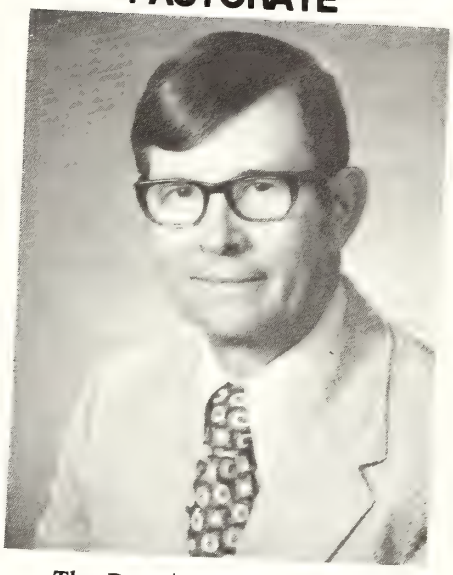
Registration is at 9:45 a.m. in Room 209 and the workshop is expected to be concluded at 12 noon.

Mrs. Betty Cobb, Financial Aid Director at Mount Olive College, will be conducting the workshop which is to assist prospective students in applying for various types of aid—scholarships, grants, work study programs, and loans. Specific programs of financial aid and procedures to follow in the application process will be presented.

Assisting in the activities of the day will be Dr. Opey Jeanes, Vice-President and Dean of the College; Mrs. Dianne Riley, Associate director of Admissions; and Mrs. Mary Atkinson, Admissions Counselor.

Lunch will be available in the College Cafeteria at $2.50 each.

CHANGE OF PASTORATE



The Rev. Dewey C. Boling

The Rev. Dewey C. Boling, former pastor of Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, has accepted the pastorate of Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church in Garner and has also retired from the postal service. If anyone knows of a Free Will Baptist moving into the Garner area, Mr. Boling said to please write or call him. His address is 712 East Horne Street, Clayton, North Carolina 27520; phone, 553-6572. He also solicits the prayers of all Free Will Baptists as he enters into this new pastorate.

During his ministry at Calvary, many improvements were made to the church. Some of these included heating and air-conditioning, purchases of old houses which were formerly needed for Sunday school use (the lots are now being used for parking), a new building with fellowship hall and a baptistry, padded pews, new piano and organ, and rest rooms.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For January 25

LEARN FROM THE LORD

Lesson Text: Matthew 11:2-6, 25-30

Memory Selection: Matthew 11:29

I. INTRODUCTION

In last week's lesson we read that Jesus sent His disciples to the Jews to minister in the same way He ministered to the world. He told them that they would not unite people but would cause friction among even the closest relationships (Matthew 10:34-39).

The events recorded in Matthew 12:1-15, which actually took place earlier than the preaching tour of the apostles, reveal some examples of the friction caused by Jesus' attitudes about Jewish tradition. The Jews had been burdened for centuries with a multitude of man-made regulations about the observance of the Sabbath. Jesus got into hot water with the religious leaders when He revealed His attitudes about all those regulations that had been tacked onto the law. In fact, when He healed a man on the Sabbath Day the Pharisees wanted to destroy Him (12:14).

The friction that surrounded the ministry of Jesus raised some questions: Would the Jews, especially the religious leaders, react in that way to the **real** Messiah? Could Jesus be the **true** Messiah and cause alienation? As the text of our lesson begins, John the Baptist is asking these questions.

In the second portion of today's text Jesus taught about a burdened people who had no rest in their religion. He assured them, invited them, and challenged them to come to Him—the answer to their problems.

Many people were asking, "Would following Jesus just give us another burden to live under?" Jesus indicated that He was the Lord, but that He was also the burden-lifter. His invitation offered relief and satisfaction in their religion. Anyone yoked with Jesus would find Him bearing the weight of the yoke. Life would take on a new freedom and joy with Him.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The work of John the Baptist is too frequently ignored in our preaching and teaching. Since the first part of our lesson today is concerned with John's inquiry concerning Jesus, let us review something of the work of John the Baptist: (1) there is the annunciation to Zacharias and Elisabeth concerning his birth (Luke 1:5-24); (2) there is the birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1:57-80); (3) before the Lord Jesus began His work there is the important preaching and baptizing of John (Matthew 3:1-22); (4) John baptized the Lord Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17); (5) this is followed by the single most remarkable testimony given to Jesus in the New Testament by John the Baptist (John 1:15-34). No man bore such faithful witness to Jesus as did John the Baptist, and all of this took place before the preaching, the miracles, the death, or the Resurrection of Jesus. After such faithfulness by John, he preached before Herod, upbraiding him for his licentiousness (Luke 3:19, 20). For this, he was shut up in prison at Machaerus on the eastern side of the Dead Sea. After being there for some months and hearing of no great "conquest" by the One he had announced as the Messiah, John must have wondered if he had been mistaken, and so sent word to Jesus.

B. The second part of this lesson deals with the ministry of Jesus after He has delivered His sermon on John. He then turned His attention to the populous centers on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee, where most of His ministry had been concentrated. His denunciation of these cities was devastating. They had had the utmost in opportunity; they could not avoid the utmost in responsibility. Awesome it is to contemplate what their fate would be in eternity unless they repented. But in spite of their rejection of Christ, He again comes to them with an invitation to come to Him and trust Him as Saviour and Lord.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "Life with Christ demanding but not impossible." Think about that for a few moments. Living with Christ does demand very much of us; for some, more than they are willing to give for others, it matters little what the demands are, if they are willing to give everything for Christ's sake. These are the ones who learn from Him that it is not impossible to live with Christ.

B. Some look too long at demands and turn them into impossibilities.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.**

THE FREE WILL BAPTI

"God Is a Spirit"

by Beverly Ballard

John 4:24 says "God is a irit: and they that worship m must worship Him in rit and truth."

There is a currently popular spel song that says in part he church triumphant is ve and well!"

But, is it?

t was an experience that I ll not forget soon. I attended service at the urgency of a end and because it was a fifth nday and I had no other rvice to attend at the time.

My friend ushered me into is church" and introduced e to a couple of his friends. ey were polite, but far from endly. I felt perhaps they ought I had bad breath or dy odor, or both. I turned to y friend and he shrugged. Musta had something on eir minds," he offered as an cuse.

I was handed a printed rogram" which was a far y from the type of bulletins e normally use in the Free ll Baptist churches. This as a six-paged document hich had in it some produced prayers and other adings.

When the opening hymn was nounced, I picked up an usually thick hymnal. I had me difficulty finding the mn by the number an- unced. Finally, turning to e right page, I attempted to low the music. I had never ard this anthem, and it was anthem. So, I held the book, ced my "program" where I uld see what was next.

On page four of the service oklet, I found announce- nts. A listing of mem- rs' birthdays and niversaries appeared, along h noted social gatherings, including a bridge party, two afternoon teas, and a dance for the youth in the church's fellowship annex.

I'll spare you a description of the service that followed, but will explain that it was as spirit-less, unemotional as anyone could find. Obviously, everyone wanted to hurry through it and get off to a boat ride on the river or a party at the beach. Nothing about the service left me feeling like I had worshiped. There was an empty void that gnawed at my being as I waited for some breakthrough in formalities.

Later as I left the church and the "lecture" on "Worldwide Brotherhood," I prayed under my breath that someway these people would one day get a real taste of old-fashioned gospel preaching.

My thoughts went to John 4:24. How could any congregation so embedded in formalities and starchy atmosphere ever worship God in spirit and truth?

I thank my Lord that He saw fit to call me into a ministry among people who make some leeway for the Holy Spirit! I'd rather see our people worship in a brush arbor or log cabin than in large beautiful "sanctuaries" where there is no room left for the Holy Ghost.

Why are people willing to be cramped into spiritual straight-jackets?

Paul wrote to Timothy (2 Timothy 3:5) about this kind of people. He referred to them in the fourth verse of the third chapter as being lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, then went on to write: "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof . . . ."

If the church as a whole is alive and well, then it should have a little life in its body. The church should be an ORGANISM rather than just an ORGANIZATION. In my hearing, the Rev. J. C. Griffin (Pa Griffin) once declared "I hope our Free Will Baptist denomination will never become so organized that it can no longer be an organism to be used of God."

How can we see to it that our church will not "dry up on the limb" and die a spiritual death?

First, we can recognize our utter dependence upon God for direction.

We must saturate our services with devout prayer—prayer that comes from the heart and not just out of the mouth by reading from some piece of paper, prayer that will bring about results because it reaches into the depths of Heaven.

Second, we can open our services not only to our members, but most of all to the Holy Ghost. Let Him come into our churches in full force and make His being known in our worship.

Third, we can reach out through prayer, gifts, concern, and ambassadors to a Christ-needing world. Brotherhood, as such, is only a step in a direction that will do little good outside Christian leadership. Truly, we are our brothers' keepers, but only as we act inside the direction of Jesus. Jesus stretched forth His hands. He commissioned us to "GO" in His stead. Unless we reach the world for Christ, we may as well forget the world and concentrate on our own needs.

Now, in conclusion, we might say we are not opposed to doing things in our churches with orderliness. We think the use of bulletins in our churches is good when there is a need. But let's not get so wrapped up in a "program" that we leave God outside and try to infringe upon the work that should be done by the Holy Spirit.

God help us to keep our church "alive and well."

A JOYFUL TIME AT CHRISTMAS

by Gladys Corbett



Mrs. Nettie Hart, Ayden, with Santa

How do you describe joy? Happiness that puts a sparkle in the eye or a warm hug or a handshake? It's also the words, "I'm so glad you came to see me" and the pleading look that says, "Please spend some time with me." Joy? It's the feeling you have when you have witnessed all these.

There were many emotions when the Christian Fellowship Class of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church visited the Grifton Rest Home. All eyes were on the Rev. Ed Taylor as he read the story of our Lord's birth. Many joined in singing Christmas carols with the Gospel Chargers and Jack Weathersby. It was heart-warming to see the elderly ones clapping and saying, "Amen." They delighted in hearing Laurie Vernelson and Wesley McLawhorn sing. You wondered if they were remembering their own grandchildren who had probably sung to them.

Old "Santa," representing the spirit of love and charity, also visited the Rest Home. He went up and down the halls finding all who were unable to go to the dining room, where everyone gathered. Gifts were presented to all eighty ladies and gentlemen who live there.

The class went to spread joy and happiness, and received a double portion themselves. As I remember their dear faces, as the class members visited, and the lingering handshakes, I am reminded of the editorial which appeared in the December 24 issue of the **Free Will Baptist** which said, "God made Christmas happen; friends make Christmas beautiful; giving makes Christmas joyous; love makes Christmas complete."

What is joy? It is a reflection of Christ's love.

IN MEMORY OF DELORIS LLOYD ADCOCK

Deloris Adcock was a devoted Christian, a loving mother to her two precious children, Ray and Renee.

God's wisdom of love we cannot understand, but everything is God's infinite plan. Though she'll be missed by all who knew her, her smile will remain in the hearts of all her family and friends.

Deloris was a person who was the joy of springtime and the summer of everyone's life, and most of all she was a person who spread happiness to each life she touched along life's way.

So until the moment God reunites us in Heaven, we will abide in the love she gave to each of us as she went about the joy of working for the Lord, whom she loved so much.

Shelby Brown

Songs Some Churches Should Never Sing

by Clarence Bowen

Vance Harver, in his book, **Pepper 'N Salt,** tells this story:

"I dreamed I walked down the street of a town—it could have been any town—and came to a church—it could have been almost any church. The congregation was singing 'Onward, Christian Soldiers,' and if there had been one more verse they might have sung themselves to sleep. The text was, 'All things are possible to him that believeth' (Mark 9:23). I said to myself 'If they really believe this, it will be interesting to see what happens after the benediction.

"After the sermon they sang 'Rescue the Perishing' and could hardly wait to see them start rescuing the perishing. But nothing happened. Someone made a remark about the weather and when asked, 'But when do you start rescuing the perishing?' looked at me in alarm and hurried away. As I walked down the street, there walked beside me One whom I did not recognize at first. Then I knew who He was when He said sadly, 'This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me' (Matthew 15:8)."

When I read this story I thought of the churches which give little if anything to missions or which, for the flimsiest reasons, drastically reduce the amount of their giving. Such churches should never sing "Bringing in the Sheaves," "O Zion, Haste," "Send the Light," "We've a Story to Tell," and of course "Rescue the Perishing."

It's About Time

(Continued from Page 5)

at is Dominga doing?—she Palawan Island whose ung husband wanted her to ve an abortion because they uld not care for another oy; there was simply not ough to share with another ing soul, however tiny. That oy has come into the world now. Boy or girl—I wonder ich? One small, fragile new finding a friendly place of rmth because we covered, in time, what was ppening in a neglected little rner of the world. So often, is not that Christians do not re. It is just that they do not ow.

I wonder about so many ers around the world. natever the time zone, ople are real and they are rting. Everywhere, time is eting. How difficult it is to derstand and accept the fact at time does not wait. It does t wait for legislatures to act, r governments to relent, for rders to open, for conditions improve. It does not wait ile we, insulated by stance, make up our minds, cide whether the need is eat enough or dramatic ough or immediate enough salable enough. The clock ks on also for those who ve no clocks. The night, en no man can work, ertakes them as it overtakes

ime. It's the stuff of which is made—theirs as well as s. It's the stuff of which a v year is made. It is for eeming.

t may not be your last ortunity. But it could be neone else's.

—Stan Mooneyham

rinted with permission from d Vision magazine (January,).

ave you renewed your scription to the Free Will tist?

NEW PASTOR ORDAINED

by Fred Baker



One of the greatest blessings of our Lord is the answering of our prayers. One prayer that we should constantly offer is for more laborers to carry the gospel to a lost and dying world. The fact is, such a prayer is an actual command of Jesus. "Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37, 38).

We thank God that He has answered this prayer for us here in the Philippines. We have had the privilege of ordaining Brother Florencio B. Arque into the ministry of the Free Will Baptist church.

Brother Arque is a very capable speaker. He and his wife, Annie, have two teenage daughters and live in Puerto Princesa City on the island of Palawan. He is now the pastor of the church in Puerto Princesa. The former pastor, the Rev. Jimmy Basarte, is beginning a new work in another area.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at Parker's Restaurant in Greenville. Ideas on how to improve the district youth work, as well as discussion on various youth activities and programs, will highlight the workshop. A Dutch lunch will follow the meeting.

Dot Dail and Joan Little serve as chairmen of the Central District youth work. They encourage all youth leaders to attend.

COMING EVENTS

February 3—Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes' Board of Directors will meet at the Children's Home, at 10 a.m.

What Did YOU Do with 1980?

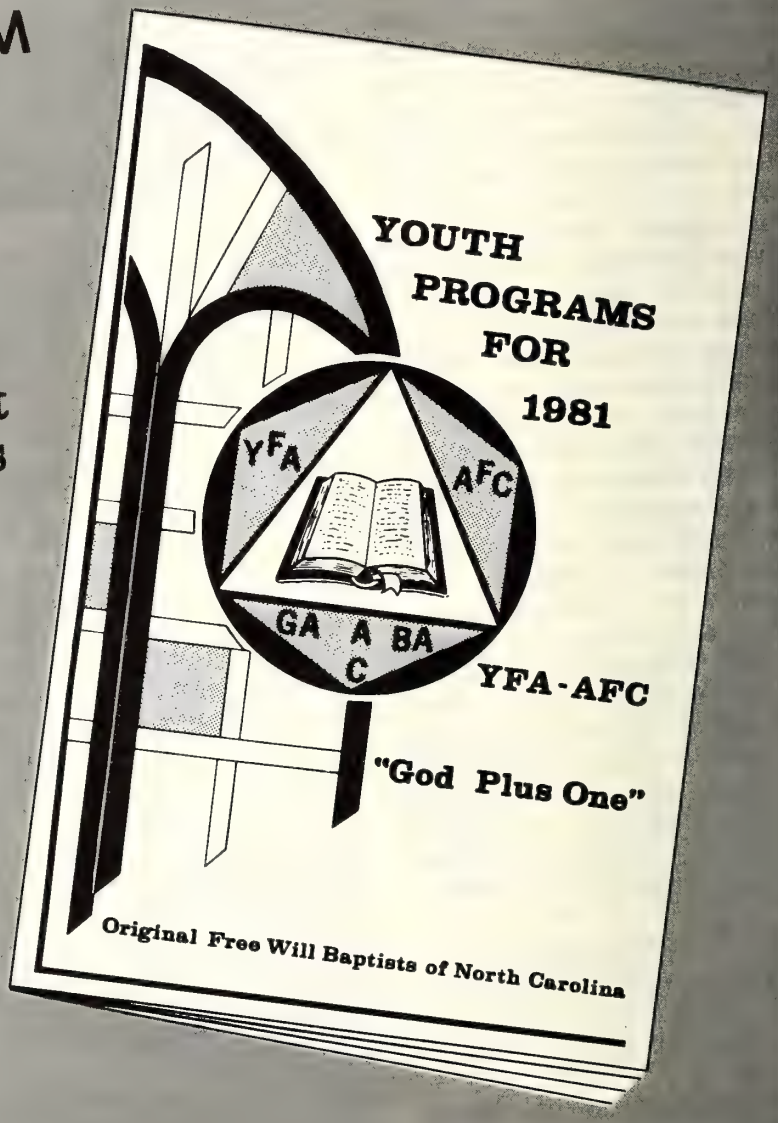
by Harold Jones

1. If you slept eight hours a day for 365 days, you slept the equivalent of 122 (24 hour) days.
2. If you worked eight hours a day, five days a week, you worked 87 (24 hour) days.
3. If you ate three meals a day (one hour allotted for each meal), you ate 45½ (24 hour) days.
4. If you watched television two hours a day, you spent 30½ (24 hour) days before the television set.
5. If you attended church four hours a week, you spent 8½ (24 hour) days in church.
6. If you prayed fifteen minutes a day, you spent 2¼ (24 hour) days in prayer.

Sleeping, working, eating and watching television seem to be easy, but the matters of church attendance and prayer are difficult for most people. What did you do during 1980? What are you going to do in 1981?

1981 YOUTH PROGRAM BOOK

The 1981 Youth Program Book is based on the theme, "God Plus One." This book is the joint effort of many people and is a *must* for all young people and their sponsors. Now available at all Bible Bookstores—Ayden, Kinston, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson.
(Price $2)



Order from the Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

The Free Will Baptist



AN 2 1981

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

Evidences of our world's fast pace are everywhere. Young people are becoming the victims of physical collapse and ulcers. Cars dart in and out of heavy traffic, often adding to present congestion, to get to fast-food restaurants so their occupants can grab a snack and "get back on the road." And it is not just the world that lives at such a breakneck pace. A minister's daughter recently checked a visitor's card requesting a visit from her father. The minister only laughed when he received the card, but his daughter was serious; she really wanted to spend some time with her father.

I know we "must be about our Father's business," but I wonder if we are at times just parroting theological jargon. In fact, we are often more involved in **busyness** than in His business. Busyness is not next to godliness. We can work all day and not accomplish a thing; we can live a lifetime without furthering the cause of Christ. Most of us are rushing about, forgetting and losing things; we are always late. Fretful and/or sick, we are becoming more and more critical of others every day. We find ourselves neglecting our family, our friends, our God. Why, Bible reading and prayer are becoming lost "arts!" "Busyness in itself can be the epitome of emptiness."

As Christians, we would probably accomplish more if we would move forward steadily. Then we would have time to be aware of ourselves and the needs of others. Christ took time to be alone, to rest, to pray, and to eat. So ought we also to have some balance in our lives. Often we feel guilty if we relax, but what do we actually accomplish for the cause of Christ when we are so physically, mentally and spiritually exhausted? When we become so preoccupied with meetings that we can't minister to the needs of others, we are too busy! There are those who depend on us; and often when they do finally "get up with us," they do not find pillars of strength—they find individuals too tired to really listen, to care. That scares me! Marriages are failing; children are suffering; people are lonely and hurting; individuals are dying without Christ. Is there no one to whom they can turn? They have problems; they need people to laugh with, to talk to, to cry on; they need to hear someone say, "I care!" But those words must be spoken truthfully! Are people not more important than meetings and other such activities?

Brothers and Sisters, I am not saying we don't work, for we do; I'm not saying we should not be busy, for we should be. But what kind of work are we involved in? What are we busy doing? We can fill our time with good activities and still lead empty, unproductive lives. We can be busy here and there, and not accomplish anything anywhere. Yes, we are working, we are "progressing," but think what we could be doing if our lives had more direction. It's time we set some priorities; we must learn to do things in the order of

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m. —5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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"SKETCHES" OF RELIGION IN AMERICA

Elias Hutchins in North Carolina



Elias Hutchins

by the Rev. Edmundo G. Gonzalez

IN 1977, while a student at Princeton Theological Seminary, I began writing series of articles about Elias Hutchins' visit o North Carolina. Hutchins, a New England ree Will Baptist minister, diligently wrote in is manuscript journal descriptive scenes of his ork among a people in North Carolina who alled themselves Free Will Baptist. I had ound part of Hutchins' Manuscript Journal and egan to cull from it the best stories.

I had decided to write seven articles but he pressures of the seminary were too much. he academic excellence required by Princeton eminary of its students slowly began to erode he time I thought I could spare to writing from lutchins' journal. I completed only four ar- icles for publication. The fourth article was rinted in **The Free Will Baptist**, July 27, 1977.

A year later, I began to assemble materials or a history about Free Will Baptists and their onnection, if any, with General Baptists from ngland. While researching, some of the naterial that I had gathered decisively pointed o the Free Will Baptists of New England and lutchins' journal. I re-read the journal and ecided to try and finish the last three articles. spent little time, however, writing the articles ut managed to make good outlines for future ompletion of the story.

A month ago, a friend asked me to continue writing from Hutchins' manuscript journal and finish the articles. Here then is the fifth article.[1]

During the time that Hutchins was preaching in Beaufort County, he came to Bath, a small village a few miles below Washington. He found there only "High church" (conservative) Episcopalians. He also found no encouragement from them in his spiritual work. Perhaps this type of treatment accorded him reminded Hutchins of another itinerant preacher who was also abused for preaching the same Christ. Hutchins wrote in his journal:

> Bath is pleasantly situated on a navigable creek not far from the mouth of the Pamlico river. It is said that it was the residence of one of the Colonial or provisional governors. It contains but few houses, and is a place of but little business. Some say that there is a curse on the place for the abuse which the celebrated (George) Whitefield received there on one of his tours through this country. The Episcopalian meeting house was

(Turn the Page)

shut against him, and he was otherwise disrespectfully treated; and, when he departed, he shook off the dust of his feet against them. And it is a saying that neither religion or business has prospered on these accounts.[2]

When Hutchins finished his preaching circuit in Beaufort County, he headed north into Martin County and when he had done his work there he went into Craven County and then into Jones County where he preached in Trenton and two other places he had selected.

Eli Hutchins had come to North Carolina in 1827. He met the Rev. Jesse Heath with whom he had been in correspondence two years. After his itinerary, Hutchins returned to New England.

In 1829, Hutchins made another trip to North Carolina and came into Greene County. He visited Grimsley meeting house, Harts, Little Creek and Hookerton. Hutchins enjoyed considerable success in this county. Here he speaks of large numbers of inquirers and interesting baptisms. Of course, he also had some discouragements. Hutchins then visited Pitt County and came to Green Swamp and other places.

From Pitt County Hutchins traveled into Lenoir County. He had been here before and had preached at Luzen Swamp, Wheat Swamp, Bethel, Kinston, Sand Hill Chapel and Woodenton.

In Kinston, Hutchins was not at first successful. The circus was in town and competition was fierce. When he finally managed to attract large audiences, the Universalists came to question Hutchins' doctrine; but he severely dealt with theirs. The joy of the reaper lightened the toil of the sower.

June 5, 1830, Hutchins writes in his Journal:

> Completed twenty-nine years of my unprofitable life—bade my dear brother Heath, brother Bond and several others farewell—was quite low in health—went to Hookerton and preached to nearly three hundred people. Lord's day, 6th, Elder Braxton baptized eight persons at Wheat Swamp, after which I preached to nearly one thousand people. Here I left most of my acquaintances in North Carolina. O, how hard to part with kind and affectionate friends—many friends in tears—my heart full of sorrow. Our minds were alive to sensations impossible to describe, and a profusion of tears attested the reluctance with which we took the parting hand. I had a journey of over 600 miles to perform on horseback, in a low state of health and in the heat of summer. I raised my heart to God, committed myself to his protection, and mentally implored the light of His countenance, and the aid of His Spirit to attend me on my lonesome way.[3]

Hutchins had preached at nearly fifty places, not to mention many funeral sermons, during the last eight months. At most places he held two or three days' meetings. These places were widely dispersed throughout eight large counties. It is said that his private conversations with inquirers were often more exhausting than his public labors. His faith began to fail him and he was constantly feeble.

Hutchins knew he had to return home. Passing through Wake County, he arrived at the residence of Elder Fonville, in Orange County. He was received with open arms. A previous appointment by letter would allow Hutchins to hold a two days' meeting. The meeting was not as successful as he had anticipated and there were few results. The wife of Elder Fonville, however, was baptized by Hutchins. The evangelist remained for six days to rest and recuperate.

On the next Sunday, June 27, 1830, Hutchins preached at a Mr. Davis' tavern in Wythe County in Virginia. The next three days, he travelled in company with the president of the college of Columbia, Tennessee. On July 1, in the evening, he preached at Tazwell, Tennessee. Hutchins pushed on and passed through Cumberland Gap and spent Saturday and Sunday in a meeting with the United Baptists near Barbourville, Knox County, Kentucky.

> Thursday, July 8th, I crossed the Ohio river at Fredericksburg, Kentucky, and was soon among my dear friends in Indiana, by whom I was kindly received, having been absent from them for nearly two years.[4]

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[1]If you wish to refresh your memory as to the other four articles, they were printed in the **Baptist** June 2[illegible] 1977; September 7, 1977; July 6, 1977; July 27, 1977.
[2]**Freewill Baptist Quarterly**, Vol. 8, 1862, pp. 300-301
[3]**Freewill Baptist Quarterly**, Vol. 8, 1862, p. 304
[4]Ibid, p. 304

February
Is
Christian Education Month

MAJOR GOALS FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DURING 1981

by W. Burkette Raper, President

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving . . . We must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it—but we must sail, not drift, nor lie at anchor"—(Oliver Wendell Holmes).

MOUNT Olive College has entered 1981 with some clear goals and firm ommitments.

I. PROGRESS TOWARD BECOMING A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE

Since Mount Olive College was chartered in 51, it has passed a number of significant ilestones including survival when many redicted failure, the first college in the history the Free Will Baptist Church to attain full ccreditation, the purchase and development of new 113-acre campus with a capital in-stment of $3 million in real estate, buildings, quipment, and library books, the most com-rehensive collection of materials and in-rmation on Original Free Will Baptists to be und anywhere, the attainment of fiscal ability during turbulent times, and the evelopment of an educational program that as given strength and renewed hope for the ture of the Free Will Baptist Church.

Now the Church has asked Mount Olive to ke an even greater step forward—to become four-year college. Because of our com-itment to serve the Free Will Baptist Church, e have responded positively and in good faith this request. According to the schedule pproved by our Board of Trustees, members our 1982 freshman class can be in the first accalaureate graduating class in 1986. Our lans are to add the junior year in 1984 and the enior year in 1985.

To make Mount Olive a senior college will equire all the commitment of mind, spirit, and financial resources we can bring to it. When I consider the magnitude of this undertaking, it makes everything else we have done appear easy; but the cause is worthy and the goal is attainable. Mount Olive College cannot stand still; we must sail and not drift or lie at anchor.

One of our major goals during 1981 will be to move forward in the development of our curriculum, the professional development of our faculty, making additions to our library and strengthening our financial base to prepare for senior college status. We will need the full support of every loyal Free Will Baptist to attain this goal.

II. TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF COLLEGE HALL

One of the requirements for Mount Olive to become a four-year college is that we have facilities adequate for our educational program. College Hall, our physical education-athletic building, is essential for us to meet this requirement. **We have needed this building from the beginning; now we must have it.**

We are not asking for luxuries; we are only asking for a facility of the same quality as our other buildings so that we can fulfill the educational mission of the College. In addition, Free Will Baptists also need a convention center and College Hall has been designed to serve this purpose as well as a physical education center for the College.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:14

MEMORIZE IT!

Sir Wilfred Grenfell, medical missionary to Labrador said, "To me the memorizing of Scripture has been an unfailing help in doubt, anxiety, sorrow, and all the countless vicissitudes of life. I believe it enough to have devoted many, many hours to stowing away passages where I can neither leave them behind me nor be unable to get at them. Facing death alone on a floating piece of ice on a frozen ocean, I have found that the Bible supplied all I needed."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Can we too say, "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97)*?*

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

Scripture Reading—Revelation 7:17

NOT GIRAFFES BUT SHEEP

A minister admonished his people thus: "Friends, to make our church services what they ought to be, you must bring with you three books: a Biblebook, a hymnbook and a pocketbook." He spoke wisely.

Yet another book could be useful in some church services: a dictionary.

Long ago the Saviour, who spoke so simply that little children could understand Him, admonished His disciple: "Feed my lambs." His meaning is clear. We should put the spiritual food so low that little ones can reach and understand it. Then the older sheep of His pasture can get it too.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10).

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 4:19

ETERNAL SPRING

Said the German poet and dramatist Goethe, "Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart. The nearer I approach the end, the plainer I hear around me the eternal symphonies of the worlds that invite me. For half a century I have been writing my thoughts in prose, verse, history, drama, philosophy. I have tried them all. Yet I have not said a thousandth part of what is in me!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The way of the LORD is strength to the upright: but destruction be to the workers of iniquity. The righteous shall never be removed . . ." (Proverbs 10:29, 30).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1:26-28

AN EXACT REPLICA

According to an advertisement in *Wellings Mint, Limited*, the renowned statue "The Winged Victory" was in 67 fragments when it was discovered. An ancient 329 B. C. coin, bearing the image of the masterpiece, showed the experts exactly how to put together the fragments of the statue.

The first man, Adam, was made in the image of God: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (Genesis 1:26a). When Adam fell, the divine image was marred—shattered to bits.

An exact replica, or reproduction, of the image of God was shown in the sinless Son of God. He was "the brightness of his (God's) glory, and the express image of (God's) person" (Hebrews 1:3).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9b).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:19

"IF TWO OF YOU SHALL AGREE"

Two young women separated by many miles made a covenant to pray for a relative who seemed hopelessly enslaved by lust. At a designated time each evening, both paused to pray five minutes for this man in need.

After some weeks, one heard a knock at her door late in the evening. It was the one for whom prayer had been made. He was deeply distressed, but marvelously receptive to the good news of forgiveness and release in Jesus Christ!

Some will toss off this kind of thing as mere coincidence

hristians who pray will not rgue the point.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Archbishop Temple once ated, "When I pray, coin-dences happen. When I do ot, they don't." How true his ords are.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

Scripture Reading—Ruth 1:21

DISAPPOINTED AND LONELY

As I sat in the university udent Union I engaged anet, an intelligent student, conversation. She was eager communicate how she felt the inside. I wanted to nderstand what was hap-ening in her life with God, so listened.

"Since I have been here, I ave tried to evaluate what e essence of the Christian ith is as I've experienced it. rankly, when I look back on y home and my church, I on't think of a loving group of eople, full of concern for each her. I don't think of reality in knowing God. I just think of people going through the ritual, all wearing masks. Our family went to church and talked about God and truth, but I knew enough of what was going on in some families to know that there were brokenhearted people, people disappointed with life, and lonely people in those pews. But nobody ever talked about that level of life. We talked about God and doctrinal truth—great thoughts that weren't anywhere on the level where people were living.

"My mother didn't tell my father how lonely she felt, how she wished he would talk with her. She just kept busy, pretending it didn't matter. We never talked or prayed about this. Nothing was ever on the level of the real you. We were always acting out some kind of unreal, victorious superexistence!"

When I listen to young people like Janet spell out their disillusionment, I want to print huge signs and put them on the front lawns of every church.

WANTED: THOROUGHLY CHRISTIAN HOMES

PRAYER THOUGHT

We don't need better church programs, additional youth pastors, more catechisms, and more conferences on youth needs. We need better Christian homes.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

WHEN GOD IS IN IT

If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.

The Bible asks an ever-pertinent question, "For who hath despised the day of small things?" (Zechariah 4:10a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember, "When God is in it, little is much!"

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

The Rev. Taylor Hill, director of the Home Missions Board, has recently undergone some very costly surgery and now faces the high cost of radiation and chemotherapy. As chairman of the Home Missions Board and a brother minister, I am asking our churches, our pastors, and every Free Will Baptist to help Brother Hill with his medical expenses.

Brother Hill has only a small hospitalization policy and it is not adequate to cover the medical expenses he has incurred and will incur through further treatment. Brother Hill has been a great help to our denomination through his dedication to the work of Home Missions. Please consider this matter and help out in any way you or your church may see fit.

Send checks to the Rev. Ray Wells, Box 67-A, Sims, North Carolina 27880. In sending your checks, please make them out to Brother Hill or to the Home Missions Board for Brother Hill.

Ray Wells
Chairman of Home Missions Board

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Edgar A. Benton announces that he is now available for full-time pastoral services or supply as well as interim pastoral work. Any church desiring his services can contact him by phoning 242-5283, or by writing him at Route 1, Box 395-A, Fremont, North Carolina 27830.

The Rev. Bass M. Mitchell announces that he is available for full-time pastoral duties. He may be contacted by writing to Bass M. Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705, or by calling 286-4744.

Have you renewed your subscription to the Free Will Baptist?

Children's Home

QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

October, November, December, 1980

Total: $71,596.28

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Albemarle District Convention	$ 207.77
Belhaven	25.00
Cape Colony Mission	25.00
Corinth	100.00
Free Union	25.00
Hickory Chapel	913.00
Malachi's Chapel	450.00
Mount Tabor	511.95
Piney Grove	125.00
Shiloh	190.10
Sidney	331.02
Sound Side	267.08
Saint Paul	275.08
Sunday School Convention	47.25
Fifth Sunday Singing	137.00
Trinity	240.00
Union Chapel	134.06
Union Meeting	25.12
Total	$4,029.43

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 335.00
Casey's Chapel	215.50
Catalpa Mission	50.00
Eastover Mission	8.39
Goldsboro, First	575.90
Haymount	150.00
Hopewell	100.46
Johnston Union	355.72
Lee's Chapel	1,548.43
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	58.69
Oak Grove	820.00
Palmer Memorial	151.56
Pleasant Grove	216.84
Riverside	150.00
Saint Paul	16.00
Shady Grove	713.60
Smithfield, First	100.00
Smyrna	100.00
Tee's Chapel	788.08
Victory Mission	29.71
Wooten's Chapel	216.15
Yelverton Grove	252.57
Total	$6,952.60

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 603.00
Ayden	365.00
Bethany	226.26
Black Jack	1,315.25
Choice Free Will Baptist Mission	32.50
Cedar Grove	70.00
Community	221.27
Daniels Chapel	813.00
Dawson's Grove	220.00
Dilda's Grove	495.43
Edgewood	454.05
Elm Grove	826.61
Free Union	623.45
Friendship	447.95
Grimsley	170.50
Greenville, First	405.00
Gum Swamp	291.00
Harrell's Chapel	370.00
Hickory Grove	958.45
Howell Swamp	873.00
Hugo	150.60
Hull Road	570.51
King's Cross Roads	1,937.05
LaGrange	20.00
Little Creek	370.00
Marlboro	20.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	29.84
Ormondsville	108.00
Otter's Creek	514.63
Owens Chapel	50.00
Peace	218.35
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	105.10
Piney Grove (Pitt)	100.00
Reedy Branch	452.86
Roanoke Rapids	18.77
Rocky Mount, First	290.00
Rose Hill	741.92
Rose of Sharon	581.66
Saratoga	30.00
Spring Branch	1,065.00
Sweet Gum Grove	257.00
Tarboro, First	345.00
Union Number 2	6.29
Union Number 4	66.66
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston, First	246.98
Winterville	817.81
Total	$18,910.75

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 510.00
Arapahoe	500.00
Bethel	153.00
Bethlehem	500.00
Beulaville	10.00
Bridgeton	309.00
British Chapel	21.00
Christian Chapel	250.00
Core Creek	439.08
Core Point	175.00
Crab Point	75.00
Croatan	100.00
Davis	200.00
Deep Run	266.00
Dublin Grove	332.77
Edwards Chapel	61.00
Faith Mission (Onslow)	75.00
Folkstone	277.65
Friendship	257.26
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	13.00
Gethsemane	176.00
Gray Branch	428.86
Hillsberry	55.00
Holly Springs	15.04
Indian Springs	115.00
Jackson Heights	4.50
Juniper Chapel	37.87
Kinston, First	320.00
Laniers Chapel	60.00
Long Ridge	64.73
Macedonia	65.00
May's Chapel	281.00
Memorial	302.75
Moseley's Creek	100.00
Mount Pleasant	204.00
Mount Zion (Onslow)	50.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	180.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	25.00
New Bethlehem	262.50
New Haven	517.77
Northeast	160.37
Oak Grove	148.00
Oriental	14.28
Pearsall Chapel	250.00
Pilgrim's Home	544.80
Pilgrims Rest	100.00
Piney Grove	100.00
Reunion Chapel	15.00
Rock of Zion	659.90
Rooty Branch	167.50
Saints Delight	80.00
Sandy Plain	318.08
Sarecta	30.00
Smith's New Home	308.20
Smyrna	326.19
Sneads Ferry	100.00
Snow Hill	549.10
Sound View	127.59
Spring Hope	150.00
St. Mary's	335.00
Trent	147.30
Union Number 3	75.00
Union Number 5	38.15
Verona	144.53
Wardens Grove	324.5
Warsaw, First	80.0
Welcome Home	250.0
Westside	480.0
Whaleys Chapel	454.2
White Hill	30.2
White Oak Grove	64.1
Wintergreen	24.5
Woodrow, First	198.0
Woman's Auxiliary	451.0
Total	$15,035.2

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	$ 525.0
Cypress Creek	106.6
Little Bethel	62.7

Macedonia	75.00
Mount Beulah	100.00
Oak Grove	415.00
Pireway	40.69
Pee Dee Association	140.04
Union Number 1	60.00
White Oak	525.00
Total	$2,050.10

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Baptist Cathedral	$ 253.07
Bethany	130.00
Community	10.00
East Rockingham	178.90
Faith	84.85
Heritage Mission	17.00
High Point	175.00
Highland Pines	30.00
Holy Cross	60.00
Hopewell	120.00
Gethsemane	87.94
Mount Olive	100.00
Union Gospel	211.10
Total	$1,457.86

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

Mount Moriah	$ 43.26
Total	$ 43.26

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Curtis Creek	$ 70.00
Odom's Chapel	70.15
Roaring Creek	80.29
Total	$ 220.44

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 810.00
Black Jack Grove	300.00
Branch Chapel	675.00
Calvary	180.33
Durham, First	50.00
Elwood Lane	464.47
Everett Chapel	957.58
Fellowship	25.00
Flood's Chapel	106.85
Free Spirit Mission	92.63
Free Union	127.15
Fremont	688.75
Friendship	253.00
Holly Springs	1,020.00
Kenly	210.00
Little Rock	555.40
Marsh Swamp	1,146.88
Micro	150.00
Milbournie	1,336.30
Mount Zion (Nash)	261.77
Mount Zion (Wilson)	175.05
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	23.63
New Sandy Hill	564.77
Oak Grove	155.94
People's Chapel	160.00
Pine Level	1,347.01
Piney Grove	270.47
Pleasant Grove	1,330.00
Pleasant Hill	200.00
Pleasant Plain	175.00
Rains Cross Roads	300.00
Rock Springs	287.24
Rosebud	27.00
St. Mary's	676.54
Sherron Acres	525.00
Spring Hill	200.00
Stancil's Chapel	323.97
Stoney Creek	3,125.00
Trinity	920.00
Union Chapel	122.57
Union Grove	245.25
Unity	81.00
Union Number 1	100.00
Union Number 2	41.25
Watson's Grove	50.00
Wilson, First	1,207.50
Youth Fellowship	75.00
Total	$22,120.30

OTHER RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

Nola Dolinger (Trinity)	$ 25.00
Corinth Ladies Auxiliary	25.00
Lee's Chapel Baptist, Middlesex Methodist, Middlesex Baptist	155.61
Total	$ 205.61

OTHER STATES

Bim Ladies Aid	$ 30.00
Boone County Youth League	75.00
Franklin County Free Will Baptist	100.00
Laurel City Sunday School	245.91
Total	$ 450.91

STATEWIDE

Christian Service Fund	$ 119.76
Total	$ 119.76

HONORARIUMS

Total: $30.00

GIVEN BY:	IN HONOR OF:
Mrs. Daisy Walston	Miss Pattie Davis
Division of Vocational Rehabitation	C. Johnson Moore Sr.

MEMORIALS

Total: $990.00

GIVEN BY:	IN MEMORY OF:
Maurice and Madge VanHorne	Ted Griggs
Saint Mary's Church	Mrs. Minnie A. Cuthrell
Mr. and Mrs. John Phillips	Calvin J. Harris
Rocky Mount First Church	Clarence Wade
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Dilday	John P. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Dilday and family	John P. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Scott	Elmer Pittman
Charlie and Elta Dilday	John Pullem Harris
Elizabeth Harrell	James P. Thigpen
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Margaret Briley	Clarence and Martha Briley
Jerry and Geraldine Brown	Clarence Wade
Keith Brown	Clarence Wade
W. S. Williams Jr.	Walker Narron
W. S. Williams Jr.	Joe Wimberly
W. S. Williams Jr.	Larry G. Deans
Mrs. Horace Becton	C. J. Wade
Keith Brown	C. J. Wade
Margaret Briley	Walter and Catherine Briley
Sam Bundy	J. T. and Hulda Bundy
Kenly Free Will Baptist Auxiliary	Jesse Woodard
Eunice Pierce	Clem Johnson and the Rev. C. J. Harris
Alfred Kaurin	Ruby Kaurin
Nora Miller	Sandra Mercer
Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church	Ethel Pipkin
Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church	Herbert Andrews Sr.
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Mrs. Jesse Alexander	R. R. Alexander
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Mr. and Mrs. John L. Stone	Greg Stone and Ruth Williams
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Mrs. Edmund Loftin	The Rev. Lloyd Vernon and Annie Wiggins Vernon

JANUARY RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

If Jesus had not come

by Paul S. Rees

"If I had not come . . ."

That's the way Jesus began one of His sentences. The haunting suggestiveness of it is overpowering.

Suppose Christ had not come. Suppose there had been . . .

no manger birth
no star in the east
no angel rhapsody
no awe-struck shepherds
no Sermon on the Mount
no Healer of hurts and hearts
no reconciling Cross
no empty tomb
no empowering Spirit
no community of the caring.

How can I be other than appalled at the mention of a conjecture so dark, smitten dumb in the presence of a fancy so grim?

How can I envisage a world without . . .

the four Gospels
the Epistles
the Atonement—the Calvary-place where my sin and God's holy love come together in a meeting in which the defiance of the one is melted clean away in the furnace-heat of the other
the promise and prophecy of a Kingdom-of-God triumph in which "all human history shall be consummated in Christ"?

If Jesus had not come, our thinking about God would have gone along gropingly, forever faltering, forever fractured. For is it not Jesus who, practically as well as conceptually, invests God with love, the universe with meaning, and life with immeasurably glorious possibilities?

If Jesus had not come! What mind can compass the immensity of the gap, the vastness of the void, that would have been created in the human story?

History without its fairest Figure
Literature without its sublimest passages
Music without its richest compositions
Eloquence without its loftiest flights
Philosophy without its most luminous insights
Theology without its Christology
Servanthood for others without its model and motive
Sin without a Conqueror
The world without a Redeemer
Death without a Destroyer
Heaven without assurance or allure.

Ah! But I remember another word of His . . .



"I AM COME!"

My word, what a difference!
He *has* come . . .
to Mary's encircling arms
to the shepherd's wondering gaze
to Jerusalem's pools and pathways
to Galilee's hills and shores
to the classy rich and the cashless poor
to the arrogant, the ignorant, the errant
to the resolute, the dissolute, the prostitute.

There has never been a coming like it. (Yes, there will be another, but even it will not be like this one.)

More than an effort, it was an effect.
More than attempt, it was an act.
More than a desire, it was a deed.
To reveal, to suffer, to die, to live again.

To enlighten our darkness, to liberate us from our chains, to save us from ourselves, to bring us to God and to mankind and to Heaven.

That's why He came! That's why He is here!

And I think He wants me—yes, *me*—to do something more than celebrate it. Staggeringly, he wants to use me to demonstrate it.

Joy to the world, the Lord *is* come! □

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (December, 1980).

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 1

TRUST IN GOD'S VICTORY!

Lesson Text: Matthew 13:24-35
Memory Verse: Matthew 13:33

I. INTRODUCTION

Matthew's Gospel contains a great deal of Jesus' teaching. The author made an evident attempt to depict an overall view of Jesus' presentation of God's truth. We see this in the block of material in Chapters 5-7, the "Sermon on the Mount." There is also a rather lengthy account of His instructions to His apostles (10:5-42) and of His words following an inquiry He received from John the Baptist (11:7-19), followed by more expressions of denunciation, prayer, and appeal (11:20-30). In the chapters we are now to study, Matthew begins a concentrated presentation of Jesus' parabolic teaching.

What we consider parables were sometimes little stories or anecdotes with simple plots. Often they were just brief, illustrative figures by which some familiar human activity was used to illuminate a spiritual reality. These parables made Jesus' teaching clearer to some and more obscure to others. He explained this dual purpose of parabolic teaching in Matthew 13:10-17. The opposition of the Pharisees, as seen in Matthew 12:2, 10, 14, 22-24, was undoubtedly a factor in Jesus' use of parables.

The three parables in the present lesson deal with the development of large results from small beginnings, though the first one stresses opposition to growth.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. A notorious but now repentant woman had come and anointed Jesus (Luke 7:36-50). A second preaching tour of Jesus followed (Luke 8:1). The furious opposition of the Pharisees reached an ignoble climax in their charge that He was in the league with the devil. They claimed proof for this charge in His casting out the demons. Jesus replied at length and in most decisive fashion (Matthew 12:22-37). The scribes and Pharisees renewed their attack by a demand for a sign from Heaven (Matthew 12:38-45). The ministry of Jesus was so intensive that the brethren of Jesus came seeking to interrupt His ministry and presumably to take Him home for a rest (Matthew 12:46-50).

B. When we see the enormous crowds, including many people motivated by curiosity or worldly ambition, we can understand the sudden change in the teaching method of Jesus. The crowds were now so large and so gross in their ideas and purposes that they could not be effectively taught. The teaching in parables was a sifting process. The worldly lost interest, while the spiritual were stirred to greater study.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Jesus' ministry was now well under way; His roster of apostles was completed; great crowds followed Him wherever He went (Matthew 13:2), many eager to hear His words and to learn from Him. The master Teacher was busy and knew that He had a great task in preparing His followers for discipleship.

B. Part of that preparation would come through His teaching, and His teaching was largely done through simple, down-to-earth parables. "And he spake many things unto them in parables . . ." (Matthew 13:3). One of His first and most important parables was that of the sower (Matthew 13:3-23) and was given to show the need for His followers to adequately receive and assimilate the Word of God.

C. His teachings were also designed to give the disciples a confidence in the ultimate victory of God's kingdom on earth. That victory would not come easily; there would be many to oppose it, and perhaps some within His own ranks would doubt its possibility. But come it would, because it would be born of the Holy Spirit and expanded by the power of God, as the parables of the leaven and the mustard seed indicated.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The legend of King Midas says that he had a golden touch, by which everything he touched was changed into gold—his books, his eyeglasses, his food, the roses, and even his little daughter. It was a terrible power. But we all have something of the same power, that whatever we touch is made to partake somewhat of our own nature. We impart our cheerfulness and happiness to others. Our character changes the character of those we live with. And so we have in our power "a golden touch," infinitely better than that of Midas, in that we can bless and help all with whom we come in contact.—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

RETIREMENT HOMES



submitted by
Stewart Humphrey

If the Lord tarries we will all need a place to retire. Our parents are facing retirement today. With inflation whisking away our buying power, will our parents, will we, be able to retire in dignity?

Social Security helps, but Social Security alone is not enough. t is imperative that we begin now planning for our retirement if ve hope to retire in comfort. Saving is important. Investing is mportant, too! Every dollar Free Will Baptists invest in our enominational Retirement Homes will ensure that everyone of s can have a worry-free retirement. The Retirement Homes' Board is asking for only $2 per church member to provide for the evelopment of retirement facilities for our people. Your in-estment of $2 per year **now** will provide a comfortable, af-ordable retirement apartment for you or your parents.

Studies are underway at this time to determine the need for a "group rest home" program, in addition to our apartments. pace is available for such a venture. Funds to develop the rogram would have to be raised this coming year. It is believed nat we could develop a 12-bed "rest home" for about $35,000-40,000. Two dollars per Free Will Baptist would easily pay for nis addition to our program.

Will you and your parents retire comfortably? Yes, if we ontinue as a denomination to plan for the future of our people nd continue to invest in the development of affordable etirement.

QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

October, November, and December, 1980
Total: $3,930.40

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	$ 40.85
Trinity	100.00
Total	$ 140.85

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Bethany	$ 25.00
Daniels Chapel	200.00
Howell Swamp	25.00
Hull Road	100.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	307.40
Reedy Branch	28.90
Roanoke Rapids	13.77
Rocky Mount, First	55.00
Tarboro, First	75.00
Union Number 2	6.29
Williamston, First	41.16
Total	$ 877.52

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Casey's Chapel	$ 303.75
Eastover	16.78
Johnston Union	499.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	54.00
Victory Mission	29.71
Wooten's Chapel	30.05
Total	$ 933.29

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Arapahoe	$ 100.00
Cabin	25.00
Croatan	25.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	52.80
Oriental	5.00
St. Mary's	25.00
Total	$ 247.80

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 150.00
Flood's Chapel	6.00
Fremont	100.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	170.10
People's Chapel	25.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Pleasant Hill	50.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Stoney Creek	500.00
Spring Hill	300.00
Wilson, First	150.00
Total	$1,601.10

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Union Number 1	$ 50.00
Total	$ 50.00

STATEWIDE

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	$ 79.84
Total	$ 79.84

COMING EVENTS

January—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Retirement Homes Month

February 3—Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes' Board of Directors will meet at the Children's Home, at 10 a.m.

AN OPEN LETTER TO FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Dear Members and Friends of the Free Will Baptist Church:

I have visited in many of your churches recently and I am overjoyed to see that so many of you are not attending. I have heard Sunday school lessons that were not adequately prepared, and listened as teachers reported that they had made no contacts or visits during the week. That made my heart leap with joy.

I was thrilled, so thrilled, when I saw so many of you walking away after Sunday school was over, talking with family members. I always tremble when you attend worship services, because preaching always tends to feed souls, and when that happens there is always the possibility that someone might be saved. It is always helpful to me when members dodge their responsibilities in the Sunday school. It gives me the opportunity to get my best punches in.

I have laughed with glee when the offering was taken up during your worship services; that is when I find out that so few of you care about God and His work, for you do not support it with your tithes and offerings. I like to see your preacher squirm and worry about finances. For, you see, that takes away from the time that he could be worrying about lost souls.

I am writing you this letter personally because I want to beg you to continue to stay away from Sunday school and church. Let your friends and neighbors, and especially your children, see that it is not important to you. You know that it is much more comfortable at home, no matter how soft those new pew cushions are. Besides, when you stay home, you fail to tithe, or to support your church, or to do any of the promises you half-heartedly made when you joined the church. (I can tell you are very impressed with your Church Covenant.) And, when you stay at home my work is much easier, and I know you are still in my camp. Please continue to keep up the good work for me, and I will see you in my final abode.

Yours from Hell,
Lucifer

(Adapted)

News Notes

Cape Fear Conference Ministers Plan Banquet

The Cape Fear Conference Ministerial Association is planning a Valentine's Banquet for Tuesday, February 10, at 7 p.m. The banquet will be held at Holt's Lake Barbecue and Seafood Restaurant on Highway 301 south of Smithfield.

There was an excellent response to and a wonderful fellowship at the last supper and it is hoped that this one will be an excellent success. Any minister who would like to attend this banquet, please send your name and the number who will be attending to Mike Scott, Route 1, Box 397, Clayton, North Carolina 27520.

Ard Selected as Outstanding Young Woman



Marla Ruth Ard

Marla Ruth Ard has been selected as one of the Outstanding Young Women of America for 1980. Her personal and professional accomplishments were cited as reasons for her being honored. (The purpose of this awards program is to recognize the many young women who give their time, talents and unselfish service to enrich the quality of American life.)

Marla graduated from Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. An outstanding student at both institutions, she received many honors.

Currently, she directs the youth choir at First Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, where her father pastors. This position is one she is well qualified for as she recently received a degree in music from ACC. She served as pianist from 1976-1979 at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill. Active in League work, Marla has served as treasurer of the Eastern Conference Third Union League Convention for the last eight years.

She is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Norman Ard of Route 1, Pink Hill.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

their importance. Let's determine just who will be the master of our lives and live accordingly. (The lordship of Jesus Christ must be affirmed.)

We cannot control circumstances; we cannot control time; we cannot totally control others. But we must learn to control ourselves. Life is not measured by the years we live, but by the worthwhile things we accomplish during those years. God never called us to half do anything and that is exactly what often happens—we half do!

Brothers and Sisters, let's be about our Father's business—but that's not spelled b-u-s-y-n-e-s-s!

MAJOR GOALS FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 5)

Architectural drawings and pecifications are complete nd contracts can be awarded s soon as adequate funds are vailable. To date, gifts and edges have totaled ap-roximately $800,000. This mount is nearly one-third of ur goal of $2.5 million. Our an is to secure pledges ayable over a five-year eriod, and during 1981 every ffort will be made to contact ach church and all friends of he College for their com-itment.

III. A BALANCED BUDGET

Regardless of all its good ualities, a college can exist nly as long as it can pay its lls. We have survived at ount Olive College because the generous support of the ree Will Baptist Church and ur friends, and because we ave worked hard and anaged well. Our operating udget during the 1980-81 fiscal ear is $2,651.525 in nrestricted gifts. This amount ten percent of our annual udget.

The College is in sound fiscal ondition, but in these days of naway inflation and calating cost, daily vigilance essential for survival. We xpect to operate a balanced udget this year.

IV. STEADFASTNESS OF PURPOSE

The extraordinary goals we seek during 1981 will not cause us to lose sight of our primary purpose—to be a Christian college in faith and practice. Our commitment to serve the Free Will Baptist Church, to maintain a sound academic program, and to uphold moral and ethical standards remains foremost.

We join the Apostle Paul in pressing toward the mark for the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus, our Lord, "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 1:2).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

President W. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College will visit two churches for College Day observances on Sunday, January 25.

In the morning he will be at Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church near Vanceboro where the Rev. Walter Sutton is pastor. He will teach a combined session of Adult Sunday school classes at 10 a.m. and also preach at the morning worship service.

At 6 p. m. he will be at Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church near Snow Hill, where the Rev. Leon Grubbs is pastor, for a fellowship dinner.

At both churches Dr. Raper will discuss the educational ministry of Mount Olive College to the Free Will Baptist Church with emphasis upon the goal and plans to develop Mount Olive into a four-year institution.

NEW LICENSED PREACHER

By Fred Baker

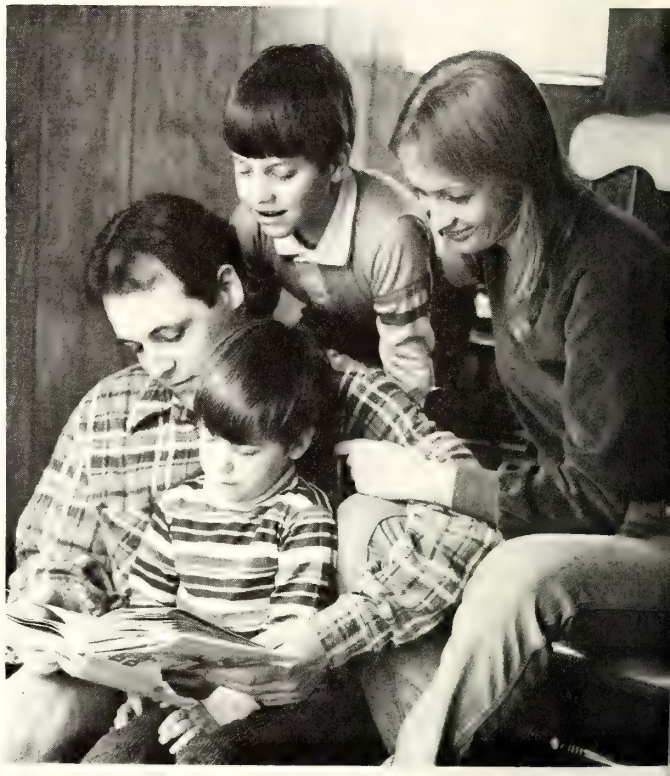


Brother Ludgerio (Roger) E. Malinao recently received his license to preach the gospel. Brother Roger is a very active member of the Free Will Baptist church in Puerto Princesa. The church was quite happy to see one of its own members answer the call to preach.

In the picture, Brother Jimmy Basarte (left), secretary-treasurer of the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines, Inc., and Pastor Flor B. Arque (right), pastor of the church, are seen presenting Roger (center) his certificate of license.

Palawan Bible Institute was also excited because Roger is one of its full-time students. He left his job as a radio announcer and went to study at P.B.I. last year. He will be among the first students to graduate (March, 1981) from the Institute.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

CHURCH OF THE MONTH



BETHANY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina
C. L. Patrick, Pastor

In the Image of God

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And God said, Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:1, 26, 27).

Yes, God created man. He created him different from the "fish of the sea" and the "fowl of the air." "God created man, consisting of a material body and a thinking, rational soul. He was made in the image of God, to glorify his Maker." He was created with desires: the desire for food to eat, a place to sleep, land to call his own, a better world for his young.

Man worked with man, and he "discovered" the wheel and fire. He soon built houses, and then towns. Man continued to work with man—the English in Plymouth, the Dutch in New Amsterdam, the Protestants in New England, the Catholics in Maryland—and he built a nation of diverse people, powerful and glorious. And man fought the Revolution so he could live peacefully as free men, for freedom is the birthright of every American.

I am glad to live in America, a land where you and I are free to choose our occupations, our leaders, our life-styles; a land where we can speak our minds and live according to our religious beliefs. I am glad that we have agreed to disagree. While we affirm the right of each person to seek his own way, we also strive for mutuality of trust and concern. There is an existing paradox, however: It is only when we are in servitude to Jesus Christ that we are truly free.

Once when speaking to a group of Jews, Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31, 32). God is "the ground of our being, the soil from which personality has blossomed. Purity and truth, justice and love spring from Him." God has shown us forgiveness through Jesus Christ. He forgives us in spite of our enmity, our littleness. God then becomes our Lord and we become His servants—servants who seek to be Christlike.

Let us follow His example; let us not withhold mercy and love to those who abuse us, for it is in going the second mile, in forgiving seventy times seven, that we will find barriers melting and reconciliation effected.

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Volume 96 Number 4
January 28, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist**, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

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Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m. —5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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Church of the Month

BETHANY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

1879-1981

by Fred Ernest Wainright

"What is it to be the shepherd of the Lord's flock at Bethany? It is to live in a . . . comfortable home by the side of the church. It is to fellowship with those whom Jesus called 'the salt of the earth and the light of the world.' It is an opportunity to teach them to observe all things that Jesus commanded—each week, the high privilege to be God's spokesman. It is to encourage the depressed, to visit the sick, the lonely, the lost and the backslidden. It is to marry the living and to bury the dead. It is to be like Jesus, ever ready to serve."—The Rev. C. L. Patrick

ON November 6-8, 1879, the General Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina met at Pleasant Grove church in Wayne County. The minutes record that "on motion of Elder D. Davis, the church at Bethany, in Pitt County, North Carolina, be received and entered on the minutes." Bethany was listed as having 26 members and as making a contribution to the conference of $1. Thus, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church officially united with the Free Will Baptist denomination in its service to the Lord.

The first congregation worshiped in a log structure with a dirt floor; it was located on the opposite side of the road from the present church. Shortly thereafter, in August of 1880, one acre of land was donated by William Smith and Ivey and Susan Allen to serve as a permanent site for Bethany church, which is the same site the church is located on today.

Elder J. T. Craft was probably instrumental in organizing the church and was the first pastor Bethany had. He was received into the ministry at the same conference meeting that Bethany was.

The first church building on the permanent site was constructed in 1881 and was built on the same spot where the current church is today. It was a one-room wooden frame building with a roof of wooden shingles. There were two doors, one on the right and one on the left of the front wall of the building facing the road, and a stove sat in the center. Three windows were spaced evenly on each side of the building. The pulpit was located at the front center of the interior. The choir sang from the right of the pulpit, and the piano was on the left. A well and watering trough for horses could be found near the road on the right side of the church. A giant oak tree shaded the front yard and remained there until the late 1920s.

Bethany progressed quite rapidly in its early days and after only eight years, in 1888, the official enrollment was exactly 100 members. Services were held each third Sunday and the church was served by many learned and dedicated pastors.

A Sunday school program was probably organized at the very beginning of Bethany church's history. In earlier times, the Sunday school met on Sunday afternoons with classes meeting in the corners of the original building. David Norris served as the first superintendent and continued to serve for many years. Few of

(Turn the Page)

us can now remember the faith and devotion of former members such as Mrs. Annie Brown, who was six years old when the first church was built, and who taught Sunday school in the old church for 25 years; Mrs. Lula McLawhorn also taught for a long time. Mrs. Eva Edwards taught the adult class for many years and the class now bears her name. Former congregations have memorialized with marble plaques the devotion shown the church and Sunday school by Mrs. Clarissa Rebecca Langston, who was a longtime senior class teacher and who passed away in 1916; by charter member E. E. Dail, who passed away in 1917; and by B. Thomas Nobles, who passed away in 1962. Today, these plaques can be found on the walls of the historical room at Bethany church.

In March, 1919, the Bethany Aid Society was organized by Mrs. Rosa Sutton with 13 charter members. The name was used interchangeably with the Ladies' Aid Society, the Ladies' Auxiliary, and is referred to today as the Woman's Auxiliary. The Society met monthly in various members' homes until the completion of the educational building in 1953. The members worked diligently in supporting the Children's Home in Middlesex, and in supporting the church in any way possible. Its role is still much the same today, and the ladies additionally maintain the church interior and educational building, while being sure to continue their support of denominational enterprises.

Also in 1919, the membership began planning for a new church building. With the leadership of Pastor R. F. Pittman and the labors of the congregation, bricking of the church began in January, 1922. On the third Sunday in April, 1925, the Rev. Pittman dedicated the new church at Bethany to our Lord. The total cost to the membership was great personal sacrifice, a lot of love, and $7,338.26.

In April, 1946, two Sunday school rooms were made by building pull down doors, creating a room on each side of the vestibule. In January of 1949, two additional Sunday school rooms were completed by adding a room on each side of the main church building.

The third Sunday of October, 1953, marked another milestone at Bethany. That day, the Rev. J. T. Forrest, who was pastor, dedicated the new educational building. November of the same year marked the beginning of half-time services, and at that time, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman began his ministry at Bethany church.

In January of 1955, while still under the leadership of Mr. Beaman, a motion was made and carried to build a parsonage. Exactly one year later, the Rev. Walter Reynolds and his family moved into the home. Cost of the parsonage, other than gifts of labor and materials, was $7,303.98. In September, 1957, Mr. Reynolds led the church as it began having full-time services.

In 1960, under the leadership of the Rev. J. Garland Teasley, Bethany began a renovation program. The exterior of the church was repaired and painted white, and the sanctuary was completely remodeled. A Gothic theme was selected in keeping with the exterior of the building. (All furniture is oak with an American walnut finish.) A unique feature of the sanctuary is the divided chancel with center aisle, placing the altar, which is the historical and Biblical symbol of man meeting God, as the focal point of the church. Upon the altar table are a cross and two candelabra. Behind the altar is a red dossal cloth, symbolizing the presence of the Holy Spirit. The new sanctuary was consecrated to the Lord on May 7, 1961. Pastor Teasley declared "the house set apart from all profane and common uses and consecrated to the service of the Lord forever." Dr. W. B. Raper was the guest speaker that day.

Stained-glass windows were installed in 1968 under the pastorate of the Rev. W. A. Hales; and an additional three rooms were added to the educational building in 1977, under the pastorate of the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor.

The Layman's League was reactivated in 1967. The League's role in the church today is to maintain the church grounds and property, and to support denominational enterprises.

In March, 1969, under the ministry of the Rev. A. B. Chandler, the Youth Fellowship Auxiliary, the Ambassadors for Christ, and the Cherubs youth programs were organized. A deep well was drilled that same year.

Now in her 101st year, Bethany church is served by the Rev. C. L. Patrick, who capably leads us by his words and deeds.

Bethany's charter members at organization in November, 1879:

Ruling Elders: Caleb Tripp, Theodore Slaughter, and John Elks

Deacons: Elbert Dail and Luke McGlohon

Members: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Wright Nobles
Mr. and Mrs. Luke McGlohon
Mr. and Mrs. Eli Craft
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Norris
Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Manning
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Slaughter
Mr. and Mrs. William Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Dail
Mr. and Mrs. Arden Tucker
Mr. and Mrs. Major (H. B.) Smith
Mr. and Mrs. John Elks
Mr. and Mrs. Linier Manning

Equality Before God

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

We have many ways by which we rank people.

Their financial status—whether rich or poor, the kind of car they drive, the kind of house in which they live, whether or not they own a vacation home, whether or not they have a boat, and if so, what size.

Their education—the prestige of the colleges they attended and the degrees they hold.

The kind of work they do—whether they are a "white collar" executive or a day laborer.

Their image in the community—the clubs, organizations, fraternal orders, civic groups, political appointments and the kind of people with whom they associate.

The above distinctions are very important to us and we take great pains to help people develop the best image possible of us. Our enemies become those who threaten our standing in the eyes of our fellowmen or who fail to recognize us as being as important as we think we are. We had rather for someone to steal our property than to deflate our ego.

Eternal Values

But how important are our man-made distinctions when it comes to the deep experiences of life like inner peace, meaning and purpose in human living? How firm will be the values by which we have lived when the doctor says to us, "If you have not already done so, I suggest that you put your affairs in order."

Sometime ago I asked a lady who was nearing the end of a long bout with cancer: "You live in two worlds, this world and the next. What is the difference?"

"My values have changed. Only eternal things are important to me now—all the other I will soon leave behind," she said.

In the eyes of man we are not all equal, but in the sight of God we are. Our relationship with God is the most important factor in our life on earth and this relationship is also the most important factor beyond earth.

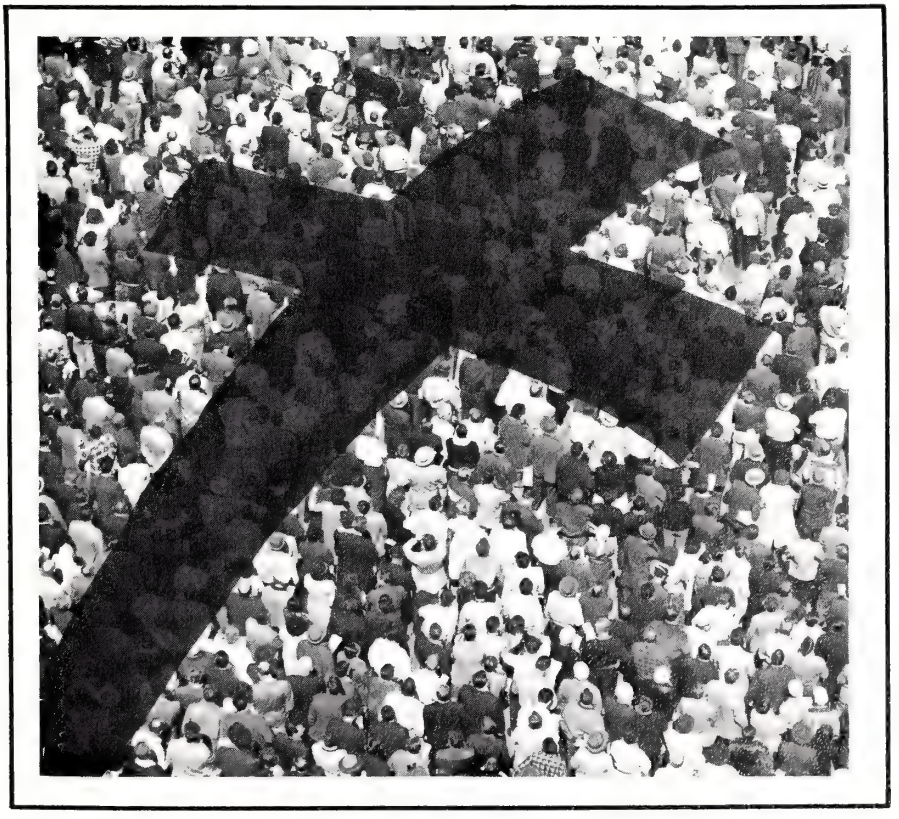
Education for Service

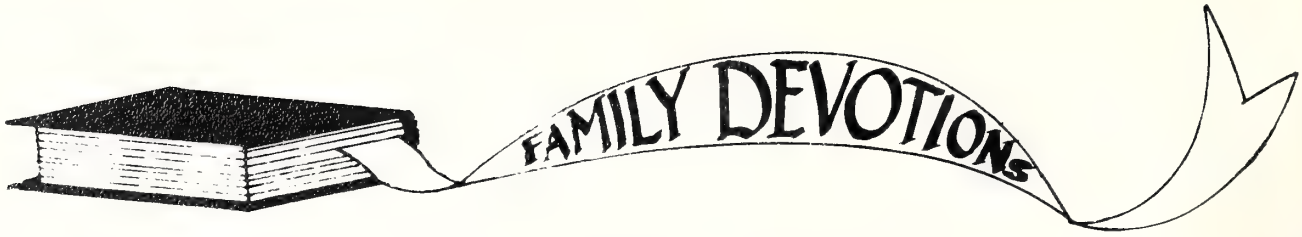
In developing our relationship with God we all stand on a plane of equality. This relationship cannot be bought by wealth, nor is it denied us because of poverty. The educated have no advantage over the uneducated in establishing their relationship with God, for this relationship is not based on our education but on the exercise of our will. There are no skills or techniques for prevailing upon God in prayer. He is equally open to all of us.

What God wants from us is our love and our full commitment. He is not responsive to any dogma or ritual by which we might seek to manipulate Him. "Not my will but Thine be done" is the most important prayer a person can pray.

When we pray "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done

(Continued on Page 15)





SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 11:28

ABIDING RICHES

One has said, "You are richer today than you were yesterday if you have laughed often, given something, forgiven even more, made a new friend, or made stepping stones of stumbling blocks; if you have thought more in terms of 'thyself' than of 'myself,' or if you have managed to be cheerful even if you were weary. You are richer tonight than you were this morning—if you have taken time to trace the handiwork of God in the commonplace things of life, or if you have learned to count out the things that really do not count, or if you have been a little blinder to the faults of a friend or foe. You are richer if a little child has smiled at you, and a stray dog has licked your hand, or if you have looked for the best in others, and have given others the best in you."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember that "the rich are not always godly, but the godly are always rich."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Scripture Reading—Revelation 17:14

LORD OVER ALL

Some years ago, Dr. Henrietta Mears visited the Taj Mahal in India. The famed structure is noted for its unusual acoustical qualities. Standing in the center of the white marble mausoleum, the guide said loudly, "There is no God but Allah, and Mohammed is his prophet!"

His voice reverberated through all the chambers and corridors of the tomb.

Dr. Mears asked, "May I say something, too?"

The guide courteously replied, "Certainly."

In a clear, distinct voice, Dr. Mears said, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, is Lord over all!"

Her voice, too, reverberated from wall to wall and through the corridors of the minareted shrine, "Lord over all . . . over all . . . over all . . . over all!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created" (Revelation 4:11).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Scripture Reading—Matthew 7:11

"TRYING ASKING GOD"

As Kate Smith and two of her friends sat in a boat drifting some distance from shore, a dense fog suddenly enveloped them. Realizing their danger, Kate said to her companions, "There is a verse in the Bible which says, 'Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven' "(Matthew 18:19).

They asked God to send help, and presently they discerned an indistinct object approaching them through the fog. It was a boat searching for them.

After this frightful experience, Kate Smith adopted as her life's motto, "Try Asking God."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's sure promise has never been rescinded: "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me" (Psalm 50:15).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:24

NONE AN ISLAND

John Donne, an English clergyman, said, "No man is an island to himself. Every man is a part of the main (the whole)."

The Bible says, "For none of us liveth to himself" (Romans 14:7a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

". . . by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many" (1 Corinthians 12:13, 14).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Scripture Reading—Acts 16:31

IF THE BIBLE WERE DESTROYED

Said Dr. Ralph M. Smith, "One of my minister friends has made more than 600 outlines of John 3:16 whose central truth is the immeasurable, unfathomable love of God for all mankind.

"Henry Morehouse began to preach when he was sixteen years old. He died in his early manhood. Every time he stood to preach, he gave as his text:

'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"If all the Bible were destroyed except John 3:16, anyone anywhere could be saved by believing this oft-quoted and cherished verse!"

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 56:7

THE UNFAILING THERAPY

Dr. Alexis Carrell, a renowned physician, said, "Prayer is a force as real as terrestrial gravity. As a physician I have seen men, after other therapy had failed, lifted out of disease and melancholy by the serene, tranquilizing power of prayer."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 13:4

TOTAL DEDICATION

A beginning Christian asked A. W. Tozer, "What does it mean to be crucified with Christ?"

Dr. Tozer replied, "To be crucified with Christ means three things. First, the man on the cross faces in only one direction: 'I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus' (Philippians 3:14).

"Second, it means not going back: 'If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him" (Hebrews 10:38).

"Third, it means ceasing to have personal plans, and living only to bring glory to Christ: 'Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?' (Acts 9:6); 'Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life or by death' (Philippians 1:20b)."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Spiritual life begins in full-orbed blessedness when we say, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Galatians 2:20).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

Current News from

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

MISSING THE BLESSING

Are you missing a blessing? It could be! The Scriptures tell us in Deuteronomy 14:28 and 29, ". . . bring forth all the tithe of thine increase . . . and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and eat and be satisfied; **that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest."** God has a blessing for you, for your church, and for your family. However, the place of blessing is found in faithful service to God. His Word tells us just where and what the place of service is. "As oft as ye do it (serve, service) to the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me," Jesus said.

Our Convention's retirement ministry at Middlesex offers every Free Will Baptist, his family, and every member church the opportunity for blessing. We have six retirees in the program now and we have turned other deserving Free Will Baptists away because of lack of facilities. Other applications are on hold.

God wants to bless His people NOW! He wants to bless those faithful ones who have retired with an affordable retirement home. He wants to bless you, your family, and your church. God promises faithfully in His Word that when we open our hearts and our hands in sacrificial giving God will open the windows of Heaven and pour out a blessing beyond measure upon His people.

"How many more programs can our little denomination support?" some ask. We can support every work God calls us to do; the more we give to the work He calls us to do, the more He will bless us.

If you've been missing blessings, then send a generous gift today to the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes and some retiree will be blessed with a good home and God will open the windows of Heaven for you, too!

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention Executive Committee met in session on January 17. On recommendation of the Rev. Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, the committee passed a motion to ask each local auxiliary to bring a contribution to the Spring District Conventions for the purchase of sixty-four place settings of Corelle Dinnerware and two complete sets of Stainless Steel Cookware.

This contribution will be in addition to the State project contribution of $20 per auxiliary for the Media Center at the Children's Home adopted in the 1980 session.

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NEWS & NOTES

Eastern District
Youth to Meet

The Eastern District Youth Convention will meet with Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, on Saturday, March 21, 1981.

A copy of essays and declamations must be sent to Mrs. Linda Ford by March 6. The rules and information concerning the essay contest and declamation is in the youth program book for 1981.

For information on the Bible Bowl please write to Mrs. Edna Fowler, P.O. Box 164, Cumberland, NC 28331; phone, 425-7873. Please advise Mrs. Ford by March 6 if you are planning to participate in the Bible Bowl.

If you have any questions please call or write Mrs. Linda Ford, Route 2, Box 37-A, Arapahoe, NC 28510; phone, 249-0651. She is the Eastern District Youth Chairman.

Youth Revival at
Owens Chapel Church

A youth revival will be held February 6 through February 8, at Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City. Services will begin at 7:30 on Friday and Saturday nights; and at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday. The evangelist will be the Rev. Harry Brown of Bahama. The pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, and members invite everyone to attend these services.

Candlelight Installation
Service Held

The Youth Fellowship Auxiliary and the Ambassadors for Christ of Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, held a candlelight installation service Sunday night, January 11, 1981, at the church.

Mrs. Carolyn Hales, YFA sponsor, introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Mr. William R. Pierce, principal of Micro school. Mr. Pierce had taught each of the participants in his classroom. As a result, it was appropriate that he spoke on the young people and their capabilities. The YFA rendered special music after Mr. Pierce's address. They were accompanied by Mrs. Linda Finnell, pianist.

The Rev. Leonard Woodall, interim pastor at Micro church, installed the officers after speaking on the topic, "God Plus One." He stressed the importance each person plays in God's work. Mr. Woodall called each officer forward and related the responsibilities of his office. He then asked each young person to light his candle if he were willing to accept such responsibility. When all twenty-two candles had been lighted, Mr. Woodall led the congregation in a special prayer of dedication.

Micro YFA
Elects Officers

The Youth Fellowship Auxiliary of Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, met at the home of Miss Pam Wall on Thursday night, January 8, 1981. The program for the evening was entitled, "Joshua and the Crossing of the River Jordan." After the program was completed, the group elected new officers. They are as follows: President—Lori Sharpe; Vice-President—Lori Evans; Corresponding Secretary—Jeff Dyson; Recording Secretary—Mel Warren; Treasurer—Mike Lane; Program Chairman—Anita Hales; Missions Chairman—Shari Dyson; Educational Chairman—Brad Sharpe; Study Course Chairman—Teresa Wall; Benevolence Chairman—Eric Pate; Fund-Raising Chairmen—Pam Wall and Steve Lane.

Mrs. Carolyn Hales serves as their sponsor.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

Donald Walston announces that he is available for pulpit supply. He can be reached by calling 291-9854 or by writing PO Box 7231, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

The Rev. Edgar A. Benton announces that he is now available for full-time pastoral services or supply as well as interim pastoral work. Any church desiring his services can contact him by phoning 242-5283, or by writing him at Route 1, Box 395-A, Fremont, North Carolina 27830.

The Rev. Bass M. Mitchell announces that he is available for full-time pastoral duties. He may be contacted by writing to Bass M. Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705, or by calling 286-4744.

The Rev. Ray Harrison Jr. will be available for full-time pastoral work at the end of January. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 103, Grifton, North Carolina; phone, 524-5186.

NOTICE

The Cragmont Stockholders will meet on Tuesday, February 10, 1981, at the Free Will Baptist Press, in Ayden, at 10 a.m. This is the annual meeting of the stockholders.

The Rev. Harry Grubbs, Chairman
Ruby Hancock, Secretary

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

SEARS, ROEBUCK FOUNDATION PRESENTS GRANT TO MOC



Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, left, acts a $500 grant for the College from James H. Babb, area presentative of the Sears, Roebuck Foundation.

A grant in the amount of 00 has been presented to ount Olive College by James Babb of Goldsboro, area presentative of the Sears, ebuck Foundation.

Thirty-eight North Carolina lleges and universities are nong over 1,000 private credited two and four-year stitutions across the country nich are sharing in $1,500,000 Sears Foundation funds for e 1980-81 academic year. unds may be used as the lleges and universities deem cessary.

In addition to its restricted grant program, the Sears, Roebuck Foundation each year conducts a variety of special-purpose programs in elementary, secondary, higher, and continuing education. Altogether, the Foundation had expenditures of almost $2,500,000 in 1980 for its education activities.

DEAN'S LIST ANNOUNCED

Twenty-four Free Will Baptist students were named to the Dean's List at Mount Olive College for the fall semester, 1980.

The purpose of the Dean's List at Mount Olive is to honor students who have achieved high scholastic standings. To qualify for this honor at the end of each semester, a student must take courses equaling at least 12 semester hours, have attained a grade point average of 3.2 or higher (4.0 = A) in courses attempted during the semester, and must not have received a grade below "C" in any subject for the period.

Free Will Baptist students achieving Dean's List honors are: Clarence Mitchell Bass of Wilson, a member of Daniels Chapel church; Timothy Webster Bass, Belhaven, Sidney church; Lela Frances Cahoon, Grantsboro, Rock of Zion church; Trudy Lynn Corbett, Walstonburg, Howell Swamp church; Jo Ann Grubbs of Deep Run, Deep Run church; Christine Gurganus, Newport, Holly Springs church; Christopher Neil Harrell, Morehead City, Crab Point church; Karen Allen Hartley, Princeton, Riverside church;

Marian Elizabeth Kennedy, LaGrange, LaGrange church; Melanie Gail Kennedy, Pink Hill, Sandy Plain church; Melody Love Kennedy, Pink Hill, Sandy Plain church; Shelia Hobbs King, Newton Grove, Saint Paul church; Betty Ruth Outlaw, Mount Olive, Rooty Branch church; Thomas Darrell Patterson, New Bern, Rock of Zion church;

Kimberly Donna Pickett, Beulaville, Lanier's Chapel church; Janet Rebecca Prescott, New Bern, Rock of Zion church; Laura I. Raper, Mount Olive, Mount Olive church; Stephen Lee Raper, Mount Olive, Mount Olive church; Donna Catherine Seymour, Goldsboro, Living Waters church; Paul Edward

(Continued on Page 15)

McFARLAND RETIRES



Christian Action League Treasurer Leon Spencer is shown presenting a check to D. P. McFarland for $1,252.25 as a retirement gift at the Raleigh Appreciation Dinner.

Friends and trustees of the Christian Action League honored retiring Executive Director D. P. McFarland at five appreciation dinners. McFarland came to North Carolina on January 1, 1961, and completed his 20 years of service to the League on December 31, 1980. Prior to his joining the League, he pastored First Baptist Church, Covington, Tennessee, for 13 years.

Commenting on his years of service, Mr. McFarland said, "These 20 years of service have gone by rapidly. When Mrs. McFarland and I moved to North Carolina, we did not know what the Lord had in store for us, but we felt confident that the Lord was leading us in the move . . . We became Tar Heels by choice and look forward to spending many years of our lives in ministry in North Carolina . . . ."

Dr. Charles Petty, executive director of the Governor's Office for Citizen Affairs, presented retiring Executive Director McFarland the Governor's Award. This award is the highest designation of appreciation for distinguished meritorious service to the people and state of North Carolina. "The Governor presented this award to D. P. McFarland because of his leadership in the field of alcohol and other drugs. These products cause hurt and pain, and we need groups like the Christian Action League to keep reminding us of the danger that they are causing to people," Petty said.

Speaking at the Raleigh Appreciation Dinner, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists said, "We of the Free Will Baptist fellowship are indebted to D. P. McFarland for his availability and assistance to our Free Will Baptist churches as we have dealt with moral and ethical issues. The League renders an invaluable service to smaller denominations like ours in helping us to deal with the destructive forces in our communities. D. P. has given 20 years of a united ministry for social and civic righteousness, and may we continue to build upon his foundation."

Leon Spencer, the longtime League treasurer, presented the McFarlands a retirement gift which was given by the trustees and friends of the League.

The McFarlands will continue to make their home at 1913 Reid Street, Raleigh.

COMING EVENTS

February—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Christian Education Month

February 3—Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes' Board of Directors will meet at the Children's Home, at 10 a.m.

February 3—Board of Superannuation Meeting, at 1 p. m., at the Children's Home, Middlesex

February 10—Cragmont Board Meeting, at 10 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina

February 18—Children's Home Board of Directors meet at 9:30 a.m., Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex



"Free at Last"

"Free at last, free at last, great God Almighty, they're free at last." Our hearts are filled with joy and thanksgiving; the 52 Americans who were taken hostage on November 4, 1979, have been freed at last! At press time, they are in Wiesbaden, West Germany.

The 444 days they spent in captivity were not easy days, but the ones ahead are going to be difficult as well, for these men and women have many adjustments to make.

Let us ever be mindful of the way God has been with our country, especially during these troubled times. Let us praise His name that the former hostages have been released "virtually unharmed"; let us seek His continued care.

Battle Hymn of the Republic

JULIA WARD HOWE — WILLIAM STEFFE

1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord; He is
2. I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hun-dred circling camps; They have
3. He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall nev-er sound re-treat; He is
4. In the beau - ty of the lil - ies, Christ was born a-cross the sea, With a

tram-pling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; He hath loosed the
build - ed Him an al - tar in the eve-ning dews and damps; I can read His
sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore His judgment seat. O be swift, my
glo - ry in His bos - om that trans-fig-ures you and me; As He died to

fate - ful light-ning of His ter - ri-ble swift sword; His truth is march-ing on.
righteous sentence by the dim and flar-ing lamps; His day is march-ing on.
soul, to an-swer Him! be ju - bi-lant, my feet! Our God is march-ing on.
make men ho-ly, let us die to make men free; While God is march-ing on.

CHORUS.

Glo - ry! glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry! glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!

Glo - ry! glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Our God is march-ing on. A-MEN

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 8

HAVE COMPASSION

Lesson Text: Matthew 15:29-39
Memory Verse: Matthew 14:14

I. INTRODUCTION

There are different ways of looking at crowds of people. Many view the masses as large numbers of those who can be exploited for personal advantage. The crowds are to be propagandized and manipulated so one can derive profit from leading them in certain directions. Others look at crowds with disdain. They are the "unwashed multitude," best shunned and left to their own blind and brutish way. Some are simply indifferent. They avoid becoming "involved" in the problems and needs of other people.

Jesus, however, looked on the masses with tenderness and a desire to satisfy their needs. He wanted to save them from their sins, enlighten them in their ignorance, and heal their diseases and disabilities. Jesus' attitude toward humans was that of one who came to shepherd those who desperately needed a shepherd's care and concern. "When he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd" (Matthew 9:36).

Jesus had left Jewish territory and had gone north to the area around Tyre and Sidon (v. 21). Sidon is not on our map but it was approximately twenty miles north of Tyre. Jesus was seeking privacy (see Mark 7:24) and no doubt opportunity to instruct the twelve apart from the excitable multitudes in Galilee. Then, leaving the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, He approached the Sea of Galilee. However, He still avoided the multitudes of Galilee and went to the area of Decapolis southeast of the sea, an area in which the population perhaps was more Gentile than Jewish (Mark 7:31). **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Many important events took place in the ministry of Jesus during the time between last Sunday's lesson on the parables and the lesson for today. The stilling of the tempest on the Sea of Galilee took place on the same day that Jesus told the parables. The instance of the Gadarene demoniac and the drowning of the swine created such a furor that the people on the eastern side of the lake asked Jesus to leave. Soon after reaching the western side of the sea, Jairus made his urgent appeal to Jesus for help; the woman with the issue of blood was healed; and Jairus' daughter was raised from the dead. Other miracles and evangelistic labors followed, notably the second visit to Nazareth. The twelve were sent out on their evangelistic mission; their return and the news of John's death is recorded in all three Synoptic Gospels. All four of the evangelists then record the thrilling miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. Jesus' refusal to be an earthly king at the Zealots' insistence led to the collapse of His popularity in Galilee. After rejoining His disciples by walking on the water, Jesus gave the Zealots further rebuff by His profound sermon on the Bread of Life. This was in the synagogue at Capernaum. The Pharisees now returned to the attack and carried on the controversy with Jesus over the failure of His disciples to keep their traditions.

B. Edersheim, in his **Life of Christ,** points out that at three successive stages in the ministry of Jesus, each was ended by setting a meal before His people. First, there was the feeding of the five thousand which came at the end of His ministry in Galilee. Second, there is the feeding of the four thousand which comes at the end of His brief ministry to the Gentiles outside of Palestine. Third, there was the last supper in Jerusalem. In this lesson we are concerned with the end of the second phase of Jesus' ministry and the feeding of the four thousand.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

We should learn from the nature of Jesus' ministry. Too often the church is content simply to preach the gospel and teach precepts of love and mercy which Jesus left with us, and as often fail to recognize the broader scope of His purposes. Indeed, it is true that the main purpose of the church is to spread the gospel and win souls to Christ, but if we will study carefully His ways we will find that He ministered to the **whole** person. Setting the pattern Himself, He healed, taught, fed, and in other ways demonstrated total compassion for the multitudes which gathered around Him. His larger purpose was to prepare His followers by involving them in His deep compassion also.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.

News of Interest . . .

"Four years ago when Jimmy Carter was elected president it raised the question, What difference would it make, if any, in his exercise of his office because he was a deeply devout, admittedly born-again, Christian?

"Here was a man who had a genuine conversion experience, who was a faithful churchgoer out of conviction and not for expediency, who read the Bible and prayed daily, who taught a Sunday school class, who was not reluctant to admit his humanity, who said he was influenced by the theology of Reinhold Niebuhr, and who even remarked once that if he were not president he might be a minister.

"Some columnists took infuriating delight in judging anything he did by the outspokenness of his faith . . . he was unpopular . . . he failed to receive the support of the people . . . perhaps he did not understand clearly enough the biblical aphorism that leaders have to be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. They have to know that they live in the midst of wolves. The high demands of the gospel have to be practiced in a fallen world. Idealists have a hard time of it.

"But history will judge the success of his presidency and we suspect he may be evaluated more favorably in the long run than he is now. In many ways he was a victim of his times. Our question, Can a Christian of deep conviction be a good president? must remain unanswered, for there are too many factors over which the best of Christians have no control, in the presidency and in any other occupation.

"Late in November President Carter was presented with the traditional Bible marking the 40th annual interfaith National Bible Week. Speaking at the time he said, 'We need not fear debate. When we stop searching, we become the pharisee who is prided for being superior and not like the publican who says, "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner." If we put aside the condemnations of one another and the exaltation of ourselves—the pharisaic attitude—in true humility and in a recommitment to compassionate love, we can heal the wounds that have concerned us all this year.'

"Thus speaks the President as preacher, and the Jimmy Carter we admire and respect as he leaves the office of presidency, chastened but not overwhelmed by defeat. He has taught us again that trying to be a practicing Christian is no bed of roses."—**The Presbyterian Outlook,** George L. Hunt

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The largest coalition of groups, churches and individuals ever to come together in behalf of better television is now being assembled. The Coalition for Better Television will have its organizational meeting in Washington, DC, on February 2, 1981. This move follows years of increasing amounts of sex, violence, profanity, and low value television programming.

A recent Gallup poll related that "more than half of all Americans reported a 'lasting, born-again experience.' The poll said that 53.4 percent—or about 84 million people over 18 years of age—claim to have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ."

The Rev. George Lee has duplicates of old Free Will Baptist books, many of which are over a hundred years old. Anyone who would like a list of volumes available should request one from him; be sure to enclose a self-addressed envelope. His address is George Lee, 1806 Wayne Memorial Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27530.

Dwight and Aileen Hawley have been in Bangkok, Thailand, for over three months now and they seem to be enjoying their work. Dwight, an ordained minister, is the son of Mrs. Leslie Hawley and the late Rev. Hawley. Their address is Dwight and Aileen Hawley, WRC, 28/2 Soi Pracha Utit, Pradipat Road, Bangkok 4, Thailand.









Central District Youth Meet

submitted by Lisa Mayo, Corresponding Secretary

On Saturday night, January 17, 1981, when the young people of the Central District met for the first meeting of the new year, we had a great turnout with over 200 people attending. Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church brought 55 people!

Our meeting was held at Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church located in the Bear Grass community. The church was packed and that says a lot for our young people; we love the Lord! The Cherubs had their own little meeting, one that was enjoyed by all of them. Our business session was handled very quickly.

The YFA banner was presented to Tarboro Free Will Baptist Church; they had 87½ percent of their members present. The AFC and Cherub banners were awarded to Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church. Marlboro church also received the attendance award.

The Rose of Sharon young people presented the Convention $50 for the state project and the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church young people added $500 to the fund.

The highlight of the evening was the program of beautiful songs and messages given by the young people of Rose of Sharon. They were directed by the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood and his wife Mitzi. They did a great job!

Refreshments were served after the program.

Our next meeting will be held on March 4, at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the Convention convening promptly at 10.

If your young people are not currently attending these meetings, make plans to come in March. It is a great way to meet Christian people.

Also, the Bible Bowl contest will be held at our March meeting. If your church would like to participate, or if you have any questions about the contest, write Mrs. Dot Dail, Route 1, Box 206, Winterville, NC 28590. Mrs. Dail also needs to receive essays and declamations two weeks before our next meeting.



WHAT IS A BOY?



He is a person who is going to carry on what you have started.

He is to sit right where you are sitting and attend, when you are gone, to those things you think are important.

You may adopt all the policies you please, but how they will be carried out depends upon him.

Even if you make leagues and treaties, he will have to manage them.

He is going to sit at your desk in the Senate, and occupy your place on the Supreme Bench.

He will assume control of your cities, states and nations.

He is going to move in, take over your prisons, churches, universities, schools, and corporations.

All your work is going to be judged, and praised or condemned by him.

Your reputation and your future are in his hands.

All your work is for him, and the fate of the nation and of humanity is in his hands.

So it might be well to pay him some attention.

—Author unknown

Mark your calendars! Boy Scout Sunday is February 8, 1981. Honor the boys from your church who are involved in the Scouting program. Let them know you care!

Do You Know God's Love?

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

"God has shown us how ıch he loves us," wrote a ın who knew Him well; "it .s while we were still sinners ıt Christ died for us!"

That's love!

The writer continued: "By ; death we are put right with ɔd."

The love shown in Jesus' ath for sinners is the love e all need more than any ner love. And the experience being "put right" with the ɔd we've shunned—that's the enefit we all need more than ıy other.

Peace with God, so cessary in both this life and e next, is God's great love t to each person who sim-y, penitently seeks it through e Christ who shed His blood for us and rose to conquer sin and death.

It is likely that most of you already know God's great peacemaking love; you've responded to the crucified and risen Saviour. Likely, however, some of you merely know **about** that love; you have yet to taste it through personal experience.

Do **you** know God's love?

If you lack the relationship with God that spells inner peace, we recommend:

1. Read and re-read Romans 5:1-11.
2. Seek additional counsel through a Christ-sharing church.

God wants you to know and benefit from His love now and eternally. Seek and find it in Christ!□

EQUALITY BEFORE GOD

(Continued from Page 5)

in earth, as it is in heaven," it does not mean that we are disdaining the things of earth. God has entrusted the resources of this universe to us and He expects us to be good stewards. He has given us our minds and He expects us to develop these minds to their fullest and highest capability. He wants us to stand for those things in life which are noble, honorable and excellent. Poverty, ignorance and slothfulness are not virtues.

For the Christian, however, wealth, an education, and opportunities for advancement in this life are advantages to be used for greater service to humanity rather than for selfish gain. From the Christian point of view, an education is not for the purpose of giving one person an advantage or power over another but rather to enable him to serve mankind in a way that he would not be able without an education. "Of whom much is given, much will be required," said Jesus.

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 9)

Thompson, Fayetteville, Victory church; William Neal Tilghman, Cove City, Wintergreen church; Beverly Elaine Tyson, Fountain, King's Cross Roads church; and Michael Dwayne Wallace, Clemmons, Sherron Acres church.

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

(Continued from Page 7)

This fund will be sent by the District Treasurer to the State Treasurer after the Spring Convention. A committee will purchase these items in order that there will be uniformity of pattern and price.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary

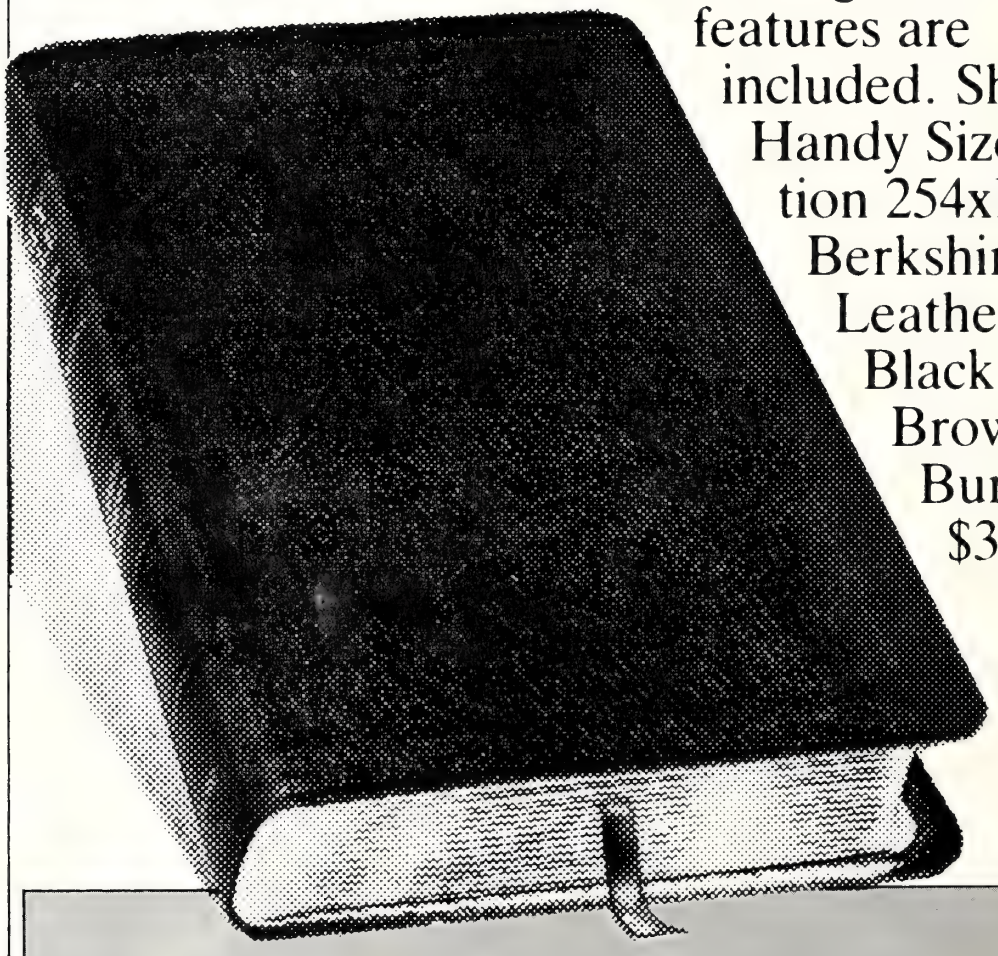
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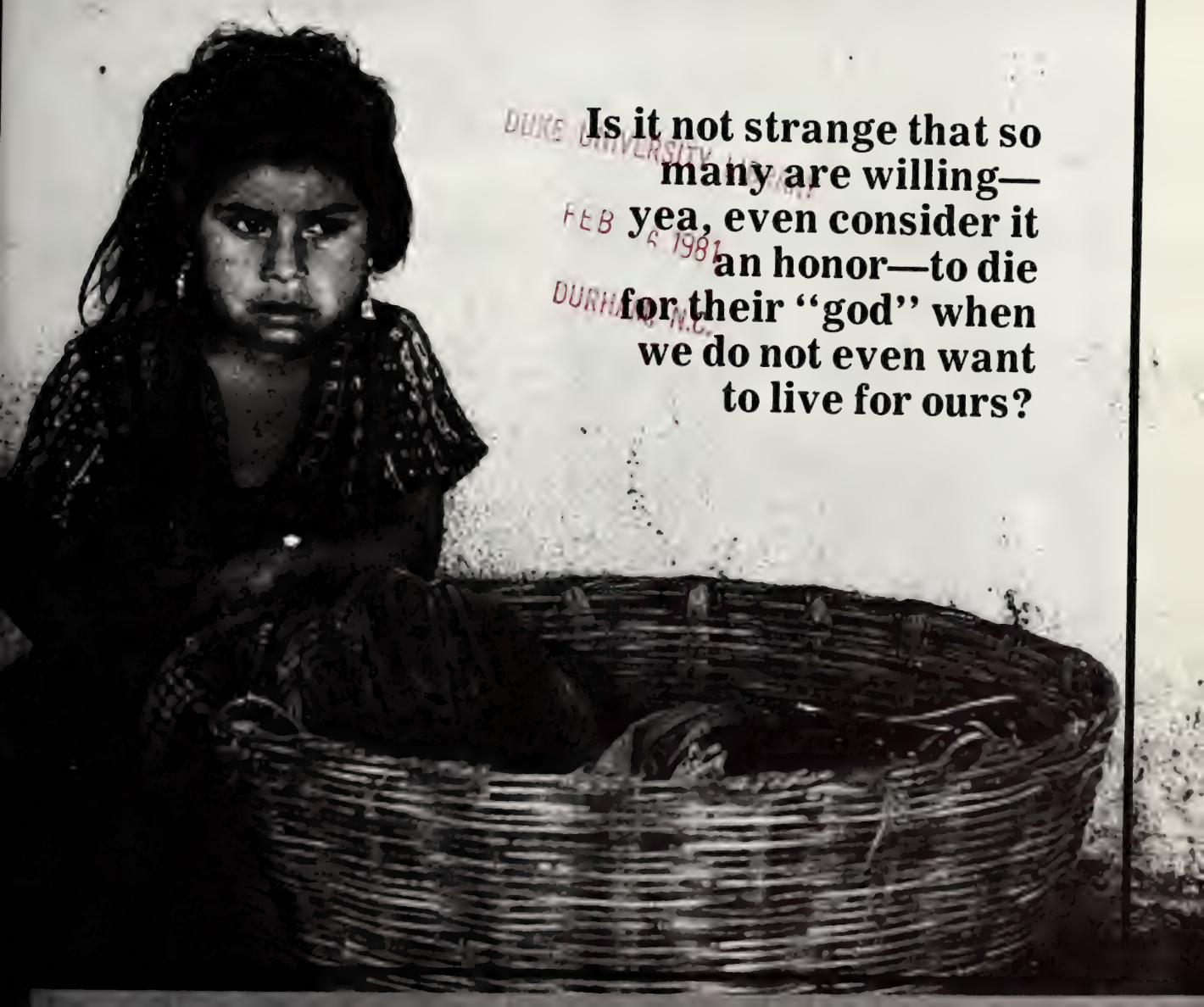


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The Free Will Bap

D.S.
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Is it not strange that so many are willing— yea, even consider it an honor—to die for their "god" when we do not even want to live for ours?

DUKE UNIVERSITY
FEB 6 1981
DURHAM, N.C.

Editorial

What Would Jesus Do?

"Ask yourselves, 'What would Jesus do?'—then be guided for this next year, by your best answer to that question." That was the pledge the Rev. Henry Maxwell asked his congregation to make in the book, **In His Steps** (Charles M. Sheldon).

It was not easy for Mr. Maxwell to offer such a challenge, but he felt such a pledge should be considered; he was spurred to action after a definition of Christian discipleship was called for by a stranger. The stranger, a former printer, visited a church service and said, "It seems to me sometimes as if the people in the big churches have good clothes and nice houses to live in, and money to spend for luxuries, and could go away on summer vacations and all that, while the people outside the church, thousands of them, I mean, die in tenements, and walk the streets for jobs, and never have a piano or a picture in the house, and grow up in misery and drunkenness and sin."

Is not the world still asking for a definition of Christian discipleship? Is it not pointing a finger of accusation at the church because of existing contradictions and wondering what it means to follow Jesus? "What contradictions?" you ask. Well, we sing, "Where He leads me I will follow, I'll go with Him, with Him, all the way"; but we fail to show His sympathy and love to the common man—we have little trouble reaching out to the well-to-do, the educated, the refined. What **do** we mean when we sing, "I'll go with Him . . ."? Are we saying we are willing to suffer and deny ourselves in order to try and save a lost and suffering humanity like Jesus did, or are we merely voicing words? The foul, sinful condition of humanity continues to fester. Can we always send proxies? Will we never act?

Where is the discipleship that obeys our Master's command to go, to suffer, to give? Many of us who will give money never think of giving ourselves. (Then again, we only give money when no real sacrifice is called for. Is that following Jesus "all the way"?) Is charity the giving of well-worn clothes? Are Christians called on to give of themselves—their talents and abilities—without expecting anything in return?

It is one thing to assemble together and sing about our love for God and others—it is something quite different to live so that such love is evident. There is "an awful lot of trouble in this world" that would not exist if we lived out the words of the songs we sing, the promises we make.

Many times since I read Sheldon's book have the words of Mr. Maxwell's challenge crossed my mind; often I have wondered what Jesus **did** mean when He said, "Follow me." Are the steps **obedience, faith, love,** and **imitation** as many say? If so, is it not time that we look at our lives?

I wonder what would happen if we—you and I—were to determine our actions according to Jesus' teaching? What would the results be if we were to base our conduct, our standards of action, on what we thought Christ would do? "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (1 Peter 2:21). "Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for every one, and there's a cross for me."

"Ask yourself, 'What would Jesus do?'—then be guided."

Cover Photo by Camerique

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February 4, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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'Here Am I"

y C. L. Patrick

THE simplest answer to the question, Why am I a minister? is that God alled me. I have served many years on the Or- aining Council of the Central Conference. enerally the first question I asked a candidate r license to preach was, "Are you sure God as called you to the ministry?" If a man has o call from God I can see no reason to further uestion him concerning his qualifications, for is is the first requirement. "And no man keth this honour unto himself, but he that is alled of God, as was Aaron" (Hebrews 5:4). ot many of us have as dramatic a call as did loses, Isaiah or Paul, but if the call is real a erson will be definitely convinced of the reali- of it. There must come that point when like aul we cry out, ". . . Lord, what wilt thou ave me to do?" (Acts 9:6).

I wasn't saved until I was twenty-eight years of age. It happened on second Sunday morning in April, 1940. As I left the church that day one person remarked, "There goes the preacher." Of course I had no idea at the time that I would ever preach. I felt led to the Lord to be faithful to my church vows, so I attended regularly, even went to union meetings. I

(Turn the Page)

studied my Bible and in 1944 began to teach an adult Sunday school class. I was determined to win every member for Christ, and the Lord blessed. The joys I experienced as a teacher and soul winner and fellowship with other Christians marked the beginning of my call to the ministry.

In 1944 when crops were drying up in the fields, we began a prayer meeting each Sunday night to pray for rain. As teacher of the adult Sunday school class I was asked to lead the prayer service. My first sermon lasted about five minutes, but the joy of preaching increased the call. The more I studied and taught and preached and witnessed the more certain I became that God was calling me to be a pastor and an evangelist.

At first I wondered, "How can I?" I was a farmer, owning my own farm and God was blessing. The question to be resolved was how can I earn a living in the ministry. We had no full-time churches in the Central Conference at the time. Another problem, I had noticed that generally the pastor led the congregational singing, and I had no talent for singing. Like Moses I was slow of speech. I thought of so many reasons why I could not be a pastor. I even thought how embarrassing it would be to be ordained and never be called to be the pastor of a church. I was making the same kind of mistakes that many of us make when we count our weaknesses instead of His great power. But the Holy Spirit was patient with me. One day I received a card containing these words, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10). I cried for joy, for I felt that this was God's message to me personally.

In April 1946 I asked my church to license me to preach, as I answered the call to preach. Again like Isaiah I responded ". . . Here am I; send me" (Isaiah 6:8). That summer I attended the first Ministers' Conference at Cragmont, and what an eye-opener it was! I had always thought of ministers as being up on a pedestal so much better than the rest of us. I discovered that ministers are men ". . . subject to like passions as we are . . ." (James 5:17). The program that year had to do with our five-point denominational program. At the end of the Conference we were asked to pledge our suppport for the entire program. I pledged my support, and for more than thirty-four years I have tried to keep that pledge.

In the fall of 1946, while I was still a licensed minister, the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, North Carolina, called me to serve as their preacher under the supervision of the Board of Deacons. My salary was twenty-five dollars per week which was considered good in those days. On that small income I left the farm and went back to college after having been out of school for fifteen years. The Lord continued to bless, and I was ordained to the gospel ministry and was elected pastor of the Greenville church shortly thereafter. My salary as a full-time minister was raised to fifty dollars weekly.

Throughout my ministry I have been blessed to enjoy the wholehearted support and help of my wife and children. They were in agreement that the gospel ministry should occupy first place in my life. They have been my severest but most honest critics. They have been my constant helpers and prayer partners Whatever sacrifice I had to make they gladly shared. One of my greatest joys on Sunday morning has been to see my family sitting together in church as I preach. As Sister May Rouse used to say, "The Lord is wonderful."

I am a minister because He who called me has enabled me. None of those fears that caused me to be hesitant about answering the call to preach have ever become realities. In every church to which I have been called God has provided dedicated Christian workers to direct the program of church music. He has taken care of the speech that was slow. He has provided for all my needs, for the Lord is my Shepherd and I have not wanted. From the time of my first call to a church there has never been a day when I was not the pastor of a church. In addition, He has enabled me to conduct several hundred revivals. In other words the Lord took this old farmer and has used him in nearly every position Free Will Baptists have to offer. Praise His name!

I know out of my own experience ". . . with God all things are possible" (Mark 10:27), "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31), ". . . greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). I am a minister not because of who or what I am, but because of what God has done in and through me. "I can do all things through Chris which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry" (1 Timothy 1:12

Cragmont Assembly News

Greetings to you from Cragmont Assembly. A new year has been ushered in with new challenges and new beginnings. We always begin a new year with our thoughts on ways to improve and better things about our lives. But we also begin the new year with things left over from the past year. At Cragmont we started out the new year with something that must be taken care of just as it was in 1980. That is the payment on the main building. Last year there was concern as to whether we would be able to make the payment. However, you the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina made it possible for the (1980) payment to be made on time and in full. I extend to you a big hearty thanks. You have shown how important Cragmont is to our young people and adults as well.

Now here is something very important that all interested Free Will Baptists should pay close attention to. At our last State Convention a new project was launched. We have named it the **CRAGMONT CLUB.** The Cragmont Club has two main purposes: (1) to allow participation in the ministry of Cragmont at the family and individual level; (2) to create a steady cash income. Here is how it works. There are three plans: (A) For $10 per month a person may join the Cragmont Club. For this $10 a month this individual along with his immediate family may stay at Cragmont for two days and nights free of charge. (B) For $7.50 a month this individual along with his immediate family may stay at Cragmont for two days and nights with no cost on the room. (C) For $5 a month a person along with his immediate family may stay at Cragmont for two days and nights for half price on the room rate. The club membership cannot be used during a regularly scheduled conference. However, it can be used if you are here for a church retreat. The Cragmont Club has the potential of raising a lot of money for Cragmont and could conceivably allow us to retire the debt of the main building far ahead of time. However, that will be determined by how many take part in the Cragmont Club. So if you are interested in club membership or any further information, please contact me at the address below. Also if you are interested in having a Cragmont representative at your church, please contact me.

For those of you who are planning retreats for the spring and fall please pay close attention to this announcement. The reservation forms that are usually sent out in January each year will be later this year. I will not have any information on 1981 prices and other information you will need until about the end of February. This is due to a change in the yearly board meeting where this information is discussed and compiled. As soon as I have this information I will pass it on to you.

John Williams
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704)-669-7677

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for your district convention. The dues are $ .40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep $ .20 and send $ .20 to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to depend upon you.

Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

The North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet May 14, with Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina. The Eastern District will host the convention. Watch **The Free Will Baptist** for a map of directions to the church.

Rena Kirk

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Ray Harrison Jr. is available for full-time pastoral work. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 103, Grifton, North Carolina; phone, 524-5186.

The Rev. Jack Lassiter announces that he is available for any type of evangelistic meetings beginning the first of February. (This includes spring, fall and youth revivals.) He may be contacted at 1112 Delano Avenue, Wilson, NC 27893, or by calling 291-8443.

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION TO MEET

"He's Able" is the theme that has been selected for the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues to meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, corner of Depot and Chapman Streets in Winterville, on Saturday, March 7, 1981. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.; and the program will conclude at 12:30 p.m., followed by lunch at the Winterville Community Building.

An interesting program of choruses, special music, and talk by Miss Becky Jo Sumner has been planned. Always a highlight of the convention is the exciting battle of juniors and intermediates for first place in the Sword Drill.

Candidates for the junior and intermediate divisions of the Sword Drill should write to Mrs. Margaret Ard, Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572, for study materials if the Leagues did not receive the information last year. Give name, age, and address. Leagues wanting to understand how the drill works should attend the convention.

For a number of years now the State League Convention, as one of the sponsoring groups of Cragmont, has striven to raise funds for its building fund. Again this year each league is requested to send at least $75, or whatever it can give, for this state project. The indebtedness on the main building must be paid, and funds are needed to meet the annual payment.

In addition there are four other needs: (1) a generous contribution to the convention ($10 is requested); (2) contestants for the Sword Drills; (3) a large number of leaguers to attend the Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont this summer; and (4) a good

(Continued on Page 15)

Response of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home to THE WILSON DAILY TIME'S Article

"Segregated Children's Home on the Verge of Going Out of Business"

An article with the above headline appeared in the January 20, 1981, issue of THE WILSON DAILY TIMES. The article was highly critical of the Home and the Free Will Baptist Church.

The Executive Director was quoted in the article in a manner that has caused a great deal of concern among our own people.

The Board of Directors of the Children's Home has met and several meetings of the President and Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home and the Executive Director have been held. The President of the State Convention, at the invitation of the President and Vice President of the Board of Directors, has played a leading role in the effort to determine just what took place and what was actually said by our Executive Director and where the reporter acquired her printed data for the article.

The following conclusions were drawn:

1. A reporter from the above-mentioned paper interviewed the Executive Director of the Children's Home on January 16, 1981, to find out how he and the Free Will Baptist Church felt about an attack brought on the Home's receiving Grant-In-Aid funds by a local Director of a Department of Social Services.

2. The Executive Director attempted to answer the reporter's questions honestly and forthrightly.

3. It is not believed that any comment made in the conversation considered within its proper context and with the explanations that were offered would have been critical in any way of our ministers, their education, or the ability of our ministers, church leaders and our people to make reasonable decisions that need to be made for the orderly operation of any of our enterprises.

4. It is unfortunate that only one side of the story was printed and has led to unfair criticism of our Children's Home, our Executive Director and our denomination as a whole.

5. Therefore: We, the Board of Directors of the Children's Home go on record in support of our Executive Director.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev James B Hester
President, Board of Directors of
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

Walter J Sutton
Vice President, Board of Directors of
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

Carolyn S Eakes
Secretary, Board of Directors of
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

Executive Committee Takes Action

At a called meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Convention held on January 27, 1981, the following action was taken.

Upon the proper motion that the Executive Committee endorse the document adopted by the Children's Home Board on January 27, 1981, "Response of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home to THE WILSON DAILY TIMES Article."

David L. Hamby
President of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

William J. Godwin
Vice President of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTON OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Mary M Bailey
Secretary of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Ray Wells
Proxy for Assistant Secretary of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Mrs. Frank L. Walston
Treasurer of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Roy T. Clifton
Member at Large of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

David W. Hawley
Proxy for Member at Large of NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS



NEEDED!

WHEELCHAIRS, CANES CRUTCHES AND WALKERS!

Recently one of our retirees was sick. She didn't feel like walking to the car to go to the doctor. When Mrs. Vowell was in the hospital, Mr. Vowell's heart condition prevented him from visiting her as often as he would like because the walk from the crowded parking lot to the hospital was so long. Another retiree needed the assistance of a cane or walker after surgery.

All these items are very expensive for persons on a limited income. They usually need them for only a short time. Therefore, we would like for those of you who have wheelchairs, canes, walkers, crutches, and various pieces of sickroom equipment of any kind that you no longer need to consider donating it to the Retirement Homes for use by our retirees.

God is blessing our retirement ministry and we encourage you to continue to pray for its success.

COMING EVENTS

February 6—Home Mission Board will meet at 7 p.m., at the Home Mission Board office located at 1209 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville

February 10—State Foreign Mission Board will meet at 9:30 a.m., at the home of the Rev. Joe Ingram

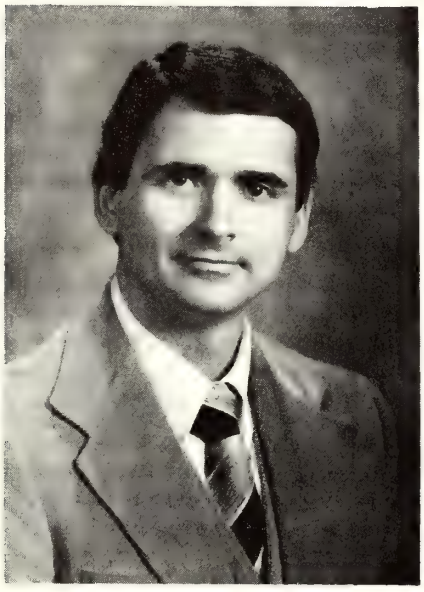
February 10—Cragmont Board Meeting, at 10 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina

February 18—Children's Home Board of Directors meet at 9:30 a.m., Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Al Warrick Appointed MOC Director of Admissions



Almond A. Warrick

The appointment of Almond (Al) R. Warrick of Saratoga as Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College has been announced by President W. Burkette Raper.

Warrick, currently a teacher and basketball coach at Beddingfield High School in Wilson County, will assume his new duties on March 23. He will be assisted by Mrs. Dianne Riley, Associate Director of Admissions, and Mrs. Mary T. Atkinson, Admissions Counselor. Having been employed by the Wilson County Board of Education since 1971, Warrick taught and coached at Saratoga and Lee Woodard before the consolidation of these schools.

A native of Johnston County, Warrick is a graduate of Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. He is the son of the late Almond R. Warrick Sr., and Mrs. Ruth Warrick of Smithfield.

Warrick is married to the former Scarlet Beaman of Stantonsburg; and the couple has three daughters, ages nine, seven, and four. The Warricks are members of Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church.

In stating his reason for joining the staff of Mount Olive College, Warrick declared, "I feel that Mount Olive College provides a Christian environment in which a person can not only receive an outstanding education but can also have Christian guidance."

MRS. JEAN F. ACKISS TO SPEAK

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss of the Development staff at Mount Olive College will be speaking on the College's Bridge to the Future program, the plan for Mount Olive to reach senior-college level by 1986, at the following churches:

On Sunday, February 8, she will be at Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, for the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Tom Miller is the pastor of the church.

At 7 p.m., she will be at Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Richlands. The Rev. Don Venable is the pastor of the church.

Mrs. Ackiss invites those interested in the College and its efforts to become a four-year degree-granting Christian institution to attend.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of December, 1980 totaled $3,804.67 and are as follows:

In Memory of

Roger R. Ackiss by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby W. Ackiss, Goldsboro.

Mrs. Lucy V. Alford by Ben R. Alford, Morehead City.

The Rev. J. W. Alford by Ben R. Alford, Morehead City.

Paul Allen by Circle Number 1, Woman's Auxiliary, East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, East Rockingham.

Earl Anderson by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby W. Ackiss, Goldsboro.

The Rev. W. E. Anderson by Evelyn White, Durham.

Mrs. Sarah Pearson Baldree by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; and Mr. and Mrs. Abner H. Miller, Wilson.

Arthur R. Barnhill by Roscoe and Edith Barnhill, Greenville.

Lillis O. Barnhill by Roscoe and Edith Barnhill, Greenville.

Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Barrow Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Barrow, Wilson.

Mrs. S. C. Batten by Mrs. Ruth Batten Ainsley, Middlesex.

Thomas Brame by Dr. and Mrs. John McCain, Wilson.

Mrs. Effie L. Brock by the Rev. and Mrs. Clifton Rice, Kinston.

Pat Brock by Mr. and Mrs. Horace B. Phillips and family, Trenton.

Mrs. Julia Burch by Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Hooks, Mount Olive.

Steve Burns by Mrs. Eugene James, Tarboro.

The Rev. Walter Carter by Circle Number 1, Woman's Auxiliary, East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, East Rockingham.

Harvey H. Casey Sr. by Sarah J. Casey, Goldsboro.

The Rev. Albert Coates by Mr. and Mrs. John Glass and Lauren, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Stephen C. Coleman by Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Scott, Lucama; Mrs. Pearl R. Johnson, Raleigh; Frances Boyette, Lucama; and Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Bessie T. Cowan by Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Cowan, Robersonville.

Mrs. Myrtle Myers Cowan by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Charles Leigh Cox by Mr. and Mrs. Albert P. Cox, Mount Olive.

Mr. A. M. Creech by Mr. and Mrs. W. Vernon Braswell, Princeton.

Percy Daughtry by the Bob Thomas Sunday School Class, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton; and Mr. and Mrs. Ivery Daughtry and family, Smithfield.

Mrs. Dora Dawson by Lou Esther Jackson, Kinston.

Rayford Paul Edwards by Mr. and
Irs. Alfred Cahoon, Grantsboro.
Mrs. Mattie Evans by Mr. and Mrs.
ran Cox, Greenville; and Mrs. Clyde
anley, Greenville.
Joe Harvey Farmer by Mr. and Mrs.
illiam A. Crandell, Stokes.
Arthur Fields by Circle Number 1,
oman's Auxiliary, East Rockingham
ree Will Baptist Church, East Rock-
gham.
Mr. Dave Fillingame by Mr. and Mrs.
obby W. Ackiss.
Clayton Gaskins by Mr. and Mrs.
arvey Whitford, Vanceboro.
Ben F. Gay by Mrs. Ben F. Gay,
alstonburg.
Mr. Perry Grady by Mrs. Nellie G.
utlaw, Dudley; and Mr. and Mrs.
eslie Anderson, Mount Olive.
Mrs. Edna Gragg by Mount Olive Col-
ge faculty, Mount Olive; and Miss
amela Wood. Mount Olive.
Mrs. Bertha Dail Griffin by Annie M.
riffin, Springfield, Virginia.
The Rev. J. C. Griffin by Annie M.
riffin, Springfield, Virginia.
Roscoe M. Griffin by Annie M. Grif-
n, Springfield, Virginia.
Mrs. Teresa Pelt Grubbs by the Rev.
nd Mrs. N. B. Barrow, Snow Hill; Mrs.
elen T. Beaman, Snow Hill; Mr. and
rs. Cletus Brock, Mount Olive; Mr.
nd Mrs. John C. Carrere Jr., Lowland;
r. and Mrs. Charles B. Council, Mount
live; Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech,
rinceton; Mr. and Mrs. Jack J. Dail,
interville; Mrs. Dola H. Dudley,
nithfield; Miss Bonnie Farmer, Mid-
esex; the Rev. and Mrs. Earl Glenn,
oldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. Floyd P.
arris, Greenville; Mrs. Pearl R.
ohnson, Raleigh; Mrs. Maude B. King,
ount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. H. Martin
ancaster, Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs.
oodrow McCoy, Cove City; Miss Leah
cGlohon, Winterville; Mr. and Mrs.
illiam M. McLawhorn, Ayden; Mr.
nd Mrs. Bass Mitchell, Durham; Mr.
nd Mrs. Claude H. Moore, Turkey; Dr.
ilda F. Owens, Columbia, South
arolina; the Rev. and Mrs. C. L.
atrick, Winterville; Mr. and Mrs.
uart Patten, Mount Olive; Mr. and
rs. W. Nathan Reynolds, Goldsboro;
r. and Mrs. James O. Shackleford,
armville; the Rev. Stephen Smith,
eulaville; Mrs. Norwood Sutton,
ount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Ray War-
ick, Newton Grove; Mr. and Mrs.
T. Wilson, Vanceboro; Pamela R.
ood, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs.
mes T. Worrell, Goldsboro; Mr. and
rs. Edward Wooten, Goldsboro; and
id Adult Sunday School Class, Cabin
ree Will Baptist Church, Beulaville.
Raymond G. Hanken by Mr. and Mrs.
mes A. Brown, LaGrange.
The Rev. J. C. Harris by the Adult
nday School Class, Hickory Grove
ree Will Baptist Church, Bethel.
Mrs. Leslie Williams Harris by Mr.
nd Mrs. R. R.Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mr. Bunyan Harrison by Mrs. Linda J. Jones, Snow Hill.

Clem M. Harrison by Hildred D. Harrison, New Bern.

Mrs. Lila Harrison by Hildred D. Harrison, New Bern.

Noah Oswald Hodges by Roscoe and Edith Barnhill, Greenville.

Vanlora W. Hodges by Roscoe and Edith Barnhill, Greenville.

Mrs. R. R. Holt Sr. by Carrena B. Williams, Kenly.

Lucien G. Honeycutt by Mrs. Mattie J. Honeycutt, Clinton.

Joyce L. Hooks by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

Perry Jones Hunt by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Sarah C. Jackson by Lou Esther Jackson, Kinston.

E. Lee Jones by Mrs. Ben F. Gay, Walstonburg.

Elsie Sutton Joyner by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove; and Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Perry D. Joyner Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Lon Dawson, LaGrange.

Ruby Kaurin by Circle Number 1, Woman's Auxiliary, East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, East Rockingham.

Wade Kornegay by Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Council, Mount Olive.

Hilton Lanier Jr. by S. A. Smith, Beulaville.

Howard Lee by Mrs. Lois Lee Davis, Oriental.

Jimmy Lee by Mrs. Lois Lee Davis, Oriental.

W. A. McLawhorn by Woman's Auxiliary, Little Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Reba Malpass by the Cora Mitchell Sunday School Class, First Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Mrs. Ruie Clark Mayo by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd P. Harris, Greenville.

James S. Melton by Mr. and Mrs. Horace B. Phillips and family, Trenton.

Otto C. Merritt by Mrs. Nelle M. Boseman, Rocky Mount.

Donnie H. Milbee by Carroll W. Hawkins, Cove City.

Rufus B. Narron by Chaplain and Mrs. John B. Narron, Rome, New York.

Claudia Oliver by Estell M. West, Plymouth.

J. Robert Pate by Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Council, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Lucille Pate by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

William Barrett Pierce by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd P. Harris, Greenville.

"Buzzy" Pierce by Mrs. Eugene James, Tarboro.

Mrs. Wesley Price by White Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange.

Chester Rayford by Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech, Princeton; and Kay Radford, Wilmington.

Orville W. Raper by the O. W. Raper Jr. family, Kenly.

Josephine S. Reaves by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pounds, Clayton.

Thomas Reynolds by Pamela R. Wood, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Angie M. Rhodes by Adult Sunday School Class, Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville; Mrs. Nora M. Miller, Beulaville; Woman's Auxiliary, Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville; Mrs. Vevie M. Thomas, Pink Hill; and Mr. and Mrs. Rolland P. Callahan, Pink Hill.

The Rev. Charles Edward Ruffin by Dr. Pepper Worthington, Kinston.

Mrs. Emma Sasser by Dr. and Mrs. J. Ray Mooring Jr., Mount Olive; Lanie W. Pierce, Goldsboro; the Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Beaman, Mount Olive; Wayne County Farm Bureau, Incorporated, Goldsboro; Birthday Group, Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville; Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Joyner, Pikeville; Mrs. Harlene A. Sasser, Fremont; Mrs. Pearl P. Pierce, Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Waddell, Goldsboro; Mrs. Lola Little, Kenly; and Marguerite P. Pierce, Pikeville.

Mrs. Dorothy Davis Sloan by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Anderson, Mount Olive.

Vanessa Smith by Mr. and Mrs. W. Rand Montague, Goldsboro; and Carolina Tractors, Inc., Goldsboro.

Mrs. Dorothy Stallings by Mrs. Geneva Wilder, Zebulon; and Mr. and Mrs. Noah Capps and family, Knightdale.

Mrs. Elbertine P. Stephenson by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

William G. Stephenson by Jo Stephenson, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Louise Stilley by Lou Esther Jackson, Kinston.

R. B. Strader by Alvin and Nannie Murray, Wilson.

Norwood Mack Talton by Cyrus R. Talton, Pikeville.

Mrs. Roy Taylor Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Taylor Jr., Arapahoe.

Roland Thigpen by Bryce H. Ficken, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Lloyd Vernon by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; and Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church, Chinquapin.

Frank Warren by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mrs. Flora Lloyd Warren by Mr. W. P. Sutton Jr., Lillington.

Crama Watson by Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Scott, Lucama.

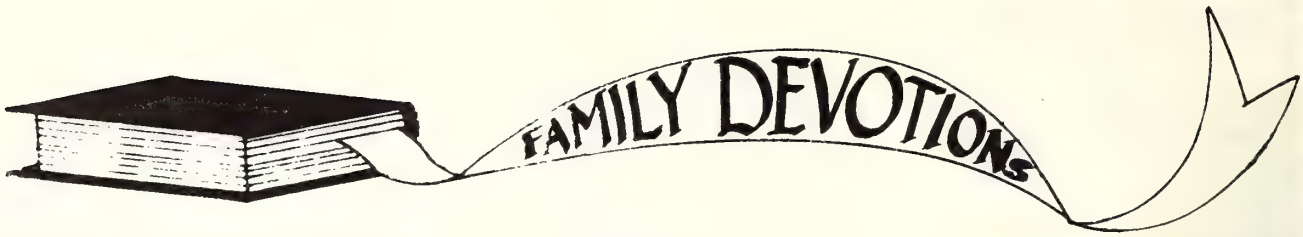
Maud B. White by Cynthia J. Wood, LaGrange.

Don Williams by S. A. Smith, Beulaville.

Curtis R. Winborne by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Thomas Winslow by Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Van Horne, Columbia.

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Scripture Reading—1 John 5:3

HOW COMPREHENDED?

The love of God cannot be comprehended as only a noun. It must have the dynamic, propelling power of a verb: "Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end (to the uttermost)" (John 13:1b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Let us remember that "where love resides, God abides."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Scripture Reading—Jude 21

IT CAN'T BE DONE

Nazir Chaundry operates a store which straddles the boundary line of two sections of a city. One section is "wet" and the other section is "dry." If he sells alcoholic beverages in the "dry" section of the store, he will lose his license.

Some Christians try to live as Chaundry operates his store. In one section of their life they try to live for God, especially on the Lord's Day. In the other section, they live selfishly and for the perishing things of the world.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How slow we often are to learn that we cannot serve two masters: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13:1-3

THE BEST PORTION

Said Browning, "The best portion of a good man's life (is) his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The glory of life is to love, not to be loved; to give, not to get; to serve, not to be served."

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:10

WHERE PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS END

Upon the death of Anne Sullivan, her patient, painstaking teacher, Helen Keller said, "I look forward to the world to come where all physical limitations will drop from me like shackles; I shall again find my beloved teacher, and engage joyfully in greater service than I have yet known!"

What joyous surprises await God's children when they awaken with Christ's likeness in Heaven: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). There we will be like Him, "for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2b).

In Heaven, we will be fully satisfied and have full-orbed knowledge: "I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness" (Psalm 17:15); "Then shall I know even as also I am known" (1 Corinthians 13:12).

In Heaven, we will be eternally united with our loved ones who died in the Lord: "But now he is dead . . . can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me" (2 Samuel 12:23).

PRAYER THOUGHT

In Heaven, we will be completely conformed to the image of Christ! I want to go there, don't you?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Scripture Reading—John 3:3

GENETIC MANIPULATION

Some scientists believe that genetic manipulation holds promise for both the improvement and the destruction of human civilization. By controlling genes which largely determine the physical and mental characteristics of a person, the scientists hope they can create a perfect man.

In addressing a scientific audience, Prof. Harold P. Green of George Washington University said, "A society which is concerned about its future must necessarily face up to the implications of genetic manipulation and make conscious decisions as to the types of social control to be imposed upon the technology and its practitioners."

To control the physical and mental characteristics of man is not enough to make a perfect man. Man's "deceitful and desperately wicked" heart must be changed. A full-orbed man must have a change of heart, a spiritual birth through the miracle of regeneration. No

enetic manipulation, however eneficial it may be mentally d physically, can produce the iritual birth needed by both e moral and the immoral an.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember that our aviour said to a moral, ltured and religious man, Ye must be born again."

RIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Scripture Reading—Judges 5:4

WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING OUT

I sometimes think the urch resembles nothing more an a holy huddle. Those who e on the field seem to spend ost of their time in the huddle. ome seem to have forgotten e plays and the aim of the ame. Some like the coziness d safety of the huddle. Did ou ever hear of anybody get- ng hurt in a huddle? Some ave been knocked down so ten that the spirit seems to ave been knocked out of them. o we spend most of our time anning strategy, analyzing e enemy, and sometimes riticizing our own team embers.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christians might well adopt new theme song: "When the aints Go Marching Out."

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Scripture Reading—Mark 14:8

"I MUST BURY MY FATHER"

A missionary won the iendship of an intelligent, rich oung Turk. One day the mis- onary said to him, "It would e beneficial and broadening r you to visit other areas of e world and become familiar ith different cultures."

The Turk answered, Before I could do this, I must bury my father."

Instantly the missionary expressed sympathy, saying, "I was unaware of the death of your father."

Surprised, the Turk exclaimed, "No, no, my father is still alive. I meant that all duties to my father must be fulfilled before I can leave home."

Then the missionary understood what a man meant long ago when he responded to the Saviour's invitation to follow Him: "Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father" (Luke 9:59).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:60). *Christ is still asking men to follow Him today.*

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

The Rev. Andrew Hill Is Improving

The Rev. Andrew Hill is now at home after being hospitalized in Duke Hospital. Reports indicate that Mr. Hill did not have a heart attack as was first reported; instead, he has a hiatus hernia. Doing much better now, he will soon return to Duke for more testing.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill wish to thank everyone for the flowers and cards they have received. Moreover, they appreciate the prayers and concern that have been voiced on their behalf, and ask that everyone continue to remember them in their prayers.

ATTENTION

The Home Mission Board will meet February 6, at 7 p.m., at the Home Mission Board office located at 1209 Arsenal Avenue in Fayetteville.

What Scouting Means to Me

submitted by William Scott Beamon

I like scouting a lot. The thing that means the most to me about scouting is it enables me to do things with the other boys in my troop (Troop 388)—things that Scouts do like go hiking, camping, cooking, carving wood, athletics, and leather crafts. Scouting is fun—it has been good for me. It has helped me grow physically and spiritually. My Scoutmaster is Mr. Sam Sum merlin.



Twelve-year-old Scott is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Beamon of Farmville, NC. He is presently working to receive the God and Country Award under the direction of his pastor, the Rev. Scott Sowers.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 15

LIVE YOUR FAITH

Lesson Text: Matthew 16:13-26
Memory Verse: Matthew 16:24

I. INTRODUCTION

"What's the big idea?" as a slang phrase has a great deal of meaning that we may sometimes overlook as we use it. Almost any cause, program, or activity has many minor or secondary "ideas" relating to it. But the important question is, "What's the *big* idea?" That is, what is the principal, central, or motivating "idea" underlying it? Our lesson today points out the "big ideas" about Jesus, about the church, about our relationship to Jesus, and about the conduct of our lives.

Briefly put, these concepts are that Jesus is the Messiah of God—God's anointed prophet, priest, and king. The church is based on Him, who acts in and fulfills these offices and functions. Our great opportunity and responsibility in life are to follow after Him and identify with Him as our Lord and Master. Our lives are to be so directed that we "lose" them for His sake in order to "find" them.

Too many times we are like people who get into a rowboat and are anxious about whether they have a pan or bucket for bailing, cushions on which to sit, insect repellent, and an anchor, but have forgotten to bring the oars. The "big idea" is to possess the means by which the boat can be moved through the water. So now we shall think about the great realities without which the church floats helplessly, whatever minor concerns it may embrace.

Following the feeding of the four thousand in Decapolis, which we studied last week, Jesus and His disciples entered a boat and came to Magdala on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. There He had a brief confrontation with the Pharisees and Sadducees, after which He and the disciples left again by boat for the eastern shore. At Bethsaida He healed a blind man, and then, by foot, the Master and His disciples proceeded north toward Caesarea Philippi. This town, located at the foot of Mount Hermon, was about twenty-five miles from the northern tip of the lake.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Following a controversy about tradition which is recorded in Matthew 15, Jesus began a series of retirements from the incessant attacks of His enemies. He desired time and opportunity to give the apostles the intensive training they needed for the dreadful days ahead. First, Jesus led them into a foreign country—Phoenicia. But Mark says significantly that "he could not be hid." The love of a mother for her afflicted child and her great faith secured from Jesus a miracle which startled the community. Jesus moved on from Phoenicia down into Perea, avoiding Capernaum. In this new section beyond Jordan where He had not preached, He was now welcomed. This was the result of the faithful ministry of the Gadarene demoniac who, when healed, had been sent back to his home and friends to explain all that Jesus had done for him. The feeding of the four thousand on the southeast shore of the Sea of Galilee (the feeding of the five thousand had been on the northeast shore) came as a climax of this ministry of this ministry in Perea.

B. Returning to the northwest shore of the sea at Magadan, Jesus was met again by His enemies with a demand for a sign from Heaven. Rejecting their demand, Jesus took His disciples across the lake on another retirement that brought them to the foot of Mount Hermon at Caesarea Philippi—the northern limit of Palestine. Here the great confession was made, the instructions given, and a week later the Transfiguration took place.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Matthew recorded one of the greatest confessions of Christ ever heard by man anywhere in the world: Peter's acknowledgement of Jesus Christ as the Son of God. It was not an idle confession falling from the lips of a nominal follower of Christ; it was born of deep conviction in the heart of one who expressed himself in a living faith in Christ. Peter's confession of faith holds a pivotal place in the history of the Christian church. In answer to it, Jesus declared that it was the foundation stone for the great church which was to rise upon it, and against which the gates of hell should not prevail.

B. Hear His voice as it speaks to your heart through this lesson; hear it as He urges you to "live your faith"!

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.

Staff Training in Progress at the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

NEW STAFF MEMBERS



Hazel and Clyde Brown

Hazel and Clyde Brown came to us just before Christmas. At present they are serving as relief houseparents.

The Browns are from Rockingham, North Carolina. They are members of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church. Hazel worked with the Home prior to marrying Clyde and raising her own family.

We are very happy to have these two dedicated servants of our Lord with us. We are thankful to God for sending such able people our way. Pray for them both as they begin their ministry with children.

NEW APPROACHES TO OLD PROBLEMS

One of the more alarming factors facing children's homes today is the large number of discharges that are the result of "acting out" behavior. How do you handle the aggressive child?

She's a strong-willed child. Life has resulted in one disappointment after another. How does she cope with it? Human nature says, "strike back—any way you can," and she does. Her temper is unbearable. She's hostile. She refuses to cooperate in the cottage or at school. She's no danger to anyone, yet, but her behavior makes her and everyone around her miserable!

For too many years she would have been discharged, sooner or later. She would have gone to a training school. Today we are taking a second look for two reasons. First, unless she commits a crime you can't send her away, anymore. The laws governing a child's being placed in a training school have changed. Second, she doesn't belong in a training school. She needs someone who cares. Someone who can love her in spite of herself, but someone who can provide structure and discipline in a life-giving, growth-producing way.

You could spank her, but she's a big girl now. She's been beaten by misguided parents until more spankings only make her hate more. There are other ways, better ways, to reach her. They are techniques and programs that our staff is exploring and preparing to administer. Love must be tempered with consistent, firm, and fair discipline. Having never understood discipline within the context of love, she thinks us to be mean. But time, prayer and godly understanding bring forth fruit. She, and many others, will grow up with renewed self-respect. She will be able to accept the failures life has dealt her and build on them, rather than let them destroy her. It doesn't happen overnight. The ugly caterpillar has to spend time wrapped in the cocoon before it can emerge as a butterfly. Our cottages, our houseparents, provide the cocoon in which that wonderful metamorphosis can take place. We provide the place, and the Spirit of God moving in our hearts and hers provides the power. People, programs and power, God's power, will bring her into favor with herself, her peers and her Creator.

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Western Conference will meet at 10 a.m., on February 3, at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Sims, NC. Any person having business with the board should meet with the council at this time.

Ray Wells, Clerk
Western Conference Ordaining Council

NEWS & NOTES

Fellowship Church Gets New Pastor



The Rev. Robert D. Jones

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, proudly announces that the Rev. Robert D. (Bobby) Jones is now its pastor. He began his duties as of January 25. He and his family are making their home at Route 1, Princeton, North Carolina.

Special Activities for Free Union Church

On February 8, at the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, the youth of the church will be in charge of the morning worship service.

At 6:30 p.m., the Revelators will present the Noah's Ark program. There will be an offering taken for the Children's Home. The program will conclude with gospel singing by the Revelators.

Free Union welcomes the Jerry Taylor family to their church as this family offers their talents to the glory of God and to the benefit of the Children's Home.

An open invitation is extended by the pastor and the membership of Free Union to everyone to come and share in these services. The Rev. Calvin A. Heath is pastor of the church.

Primary Class Learns Books of the Bible



The Primary Class

The Primary Sunday School Class of the First Free Will Baptist Church at Goldsboro, North Carolina, is learning the books of the Bible. Teachers of the class are Mrs. Hazel Casey and Mrs. Carol Franks.

The class learned how many books were in the Old Testament, and also the New Testament. They also learned the books of the Old Testament, and 8 of the 10 children in the class recited the books of the Old Testament in the Sunday school assembly, and were awarded a new Susan B. Anthony silver dollar by the superintendent, Mr. Wilber Shirley.

One member of the class, De Wayne Bailey, has learned the books of the Old and New Testaments. He recited them in the Sunday school assembly. The rest of the class is still working on the New Testament and will be reciting before long.



De Wayne Bailey

Other people in the Sunday school caught the fever, and some from the adult, junior, and intermediate departments have learned the books of the Bible. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Norman Ard.

Soul-Winning Classes Scheduled

A series of classes on personal soul-winning will be taught each Thursday night during the month of February at Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Rosebud Church Road, Wilson. The Rev. F. M. "Rudy" Owens, pastor of Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will teach the course. The class will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Rev. Jack Lassiter is pastor of Rosebud church. He and the congregation extend an invitation to all interested Free Will Baptists to attend. There is no charge for the course.

Offering Received For Superannuation

Rather than exchange gifts during the holidays, members of the Ladies' Auxiliary and the Adult Sunday School Class of Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, Morehead City, received money for Superannuation. A total of $34 was taken up during the annual event.

The Rev. Roland Cherry became pastor of Crab Point church on November 9, 1980.

Family of God" Month Planned



The Rev. Jackie Lassiter

February has been esignated as the "Family of God" month at Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson. February 8 will be "Family Day"; everyone is challenged o have all of his family nembers present that day. "Stewardship Day" is planned or February 15, while February 22 will be "Picture Day." A time of fellowship is eing planned for that evening.

The Rev. Jack Lassiter is astor of Rosebud church.

GIFTS TO MOYE LIBRARY

(Continued from Page 9)

Aaron D. Wood by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wood and Pam, Four Oaks.

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In Honor of

Charles Matthew Atkinson by Mount live College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

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Mrs. Janet Brown by Heath Memorial Bible Class, White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange.

Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Braswell, Princeton; and Mrs. Chloe A. Scott, Selma.

Carolyn Crowell by Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech, Princeton.

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Mr. and Mrs. Preston Daughtry by Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson D. Daughtry, Aberdeen.

Mrs. Sallie Dawson by Heath Memorial Bible Class, White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange.

Lloyd and Inez Edwards by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson.

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Ella Ferrell by Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

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Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Kirby by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson.

Mrs. Mattie Lewis Lane by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Williamson, Grantsboro.

Billie Jean Lassiter by Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

The Rev. and Mrs. John R. Lee by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Allen, Four Oaks.

Gene Mercer by Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech, Princeton.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miles by Kathryn Gray, Newport.

Mount Olive College by Dr. E. Lee Glover, Washington, D. C.

Mount Olive College Students who served in Viet Nam by Herbert M. Harrington Jr., Bear, Delaware.

Mrs. Mary E. Narron by Chaplain and Mrs. John B. Narron, Rome, New York.

Mrs. Bell Overman by C. L. Bowen Senior Sunday School Class, May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Dudley.

Victor Lee Pounds by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pounds, Clayton.

Zilphia Powell by Betty N. Ormond, Dover.

Mr. E. Matthew Prescott by Fifth Eastern Union Meeting, New Bern.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper by Eleanor Dickinson, Mount Olive.

The Rev. and Mrs. Clifton Rice by Mrs. Ruby Eubanks, Kinston.

Mrs. Sarah Rodgers by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. David W. Sampsell by Mrs. Marilyn Light, Californ, New Jersey; and Mr. and Mrs. David W. Sampsell, Derby, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sanders by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Sanders, Kinston.

The Rev. and Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser by Mr. and Mrs. John Strickland, Middlesex.

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GIFTS

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Goldsboro News Argus, Goldsboro.

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Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Parker, Dudley.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Reynolds, Wilmington.

Mrs. H. T. West, Ayden.

State League Convention

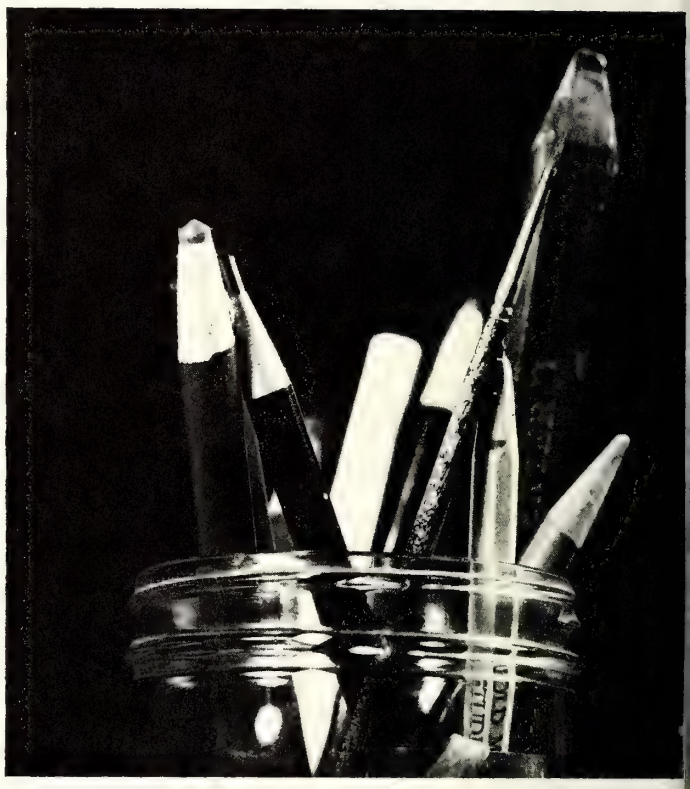
(Continued from Page 6)

representation from all leagues to attend the convention.

Since there will be no afternoon session, when report blanks are usually received from the corresponding secretary, it is **urgent** that reports, contributions to the convention, and state project funds be **mailed in** so that the information can be tabulated before the convention. Send to Miss Leah McGlohon, P. O. Box 2, Winterville, North Carolina 28590.

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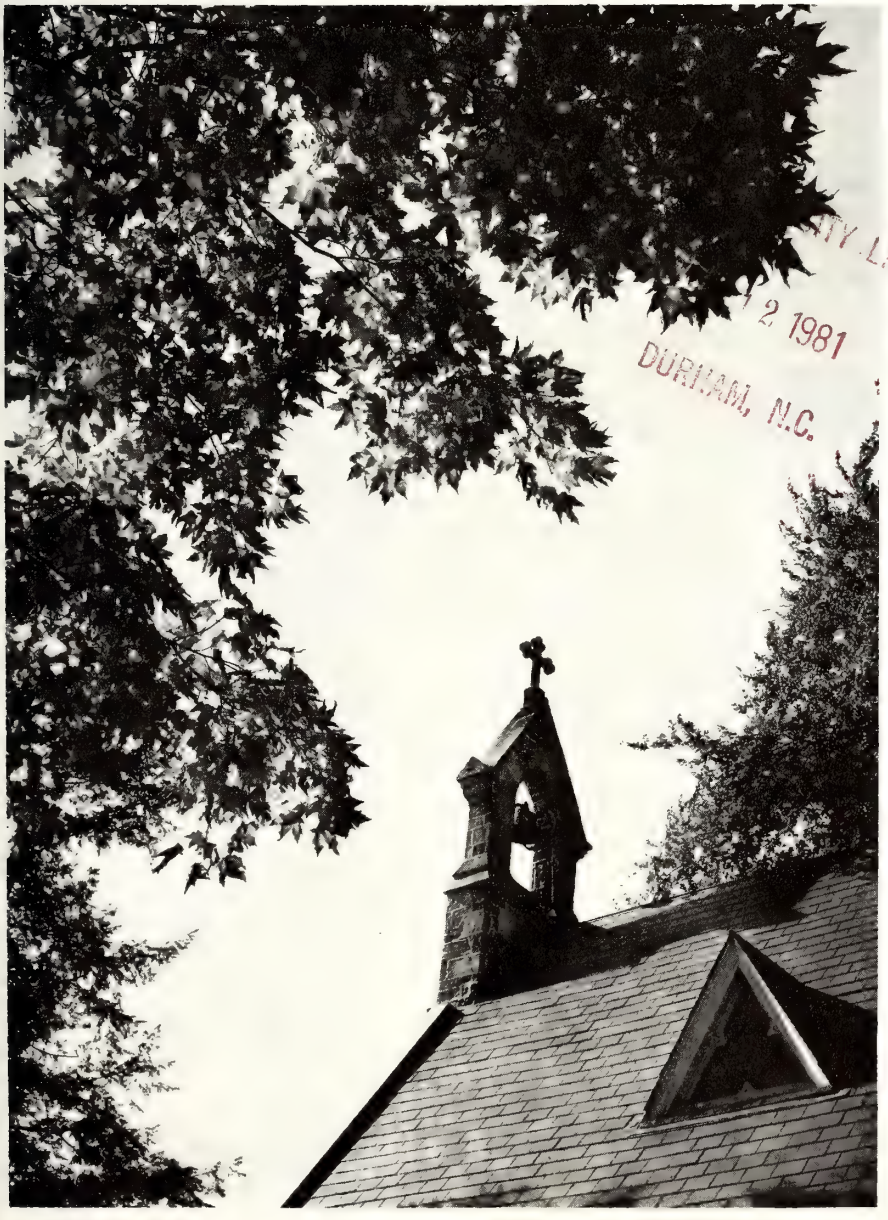
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



2 1981
DURHAM, N.C.

God can make a difference in the everyday lives of people; He can make all the difference in the world. "Life with Christ is an endless hope; without Him a hopeless end."

What's the Big Idea?

I guess I sometimes make a friend of mine feel as though he is living in a cultural desert; you see, he does not appreciate opera. On rare occasions he will reluctantly listen to an aria; feeling much "like a sinner shamed into attending church," he may go to a performance. He understands enough about what is going on to know that a story is being acted out and that the actors are singing their parts rather than speaking them. If asked about a production, he may comment on the construction of a set, the beauty of costumes, the heftiness of a soprano. But he could not provide a "good" evaluation of what he has seen.

Many people attend church with much the same enthusiasm. They may enjoy a humorous anecdote told during the course of the sermon; a catchy sentence might even be jotted down. But more often than not, the preacher's ability (or lack of it) is judged by whether or not he quits on time. In fact, important matters proclaimed behind "the sacred desk" may escape without ever being heard, much less comprehended.

When Calvin Coolidge returned home from church one Sunday, his wife asked what the morning sermon had been about. "Sin," Mr. Coolidge responded, not giving his answer a second thought. Not satisfied with his response his wife continued, "What did the preacher say about sin?" "Oh, I think he was against it," the late President replied. The whole crux of the message had not been grasped. If such occurrences are commonplace (and I'm afraid they are), one might come to wonder what difference sermons—or church and Christianity, for that matter—make.

People in the pew—and those outside of the church—live in the "real" world; a world where people lose jobs, have health problems, worry about their children, fight invading crabgrass. "Seldom do normal people lose sleep over Jebusites, the Canaanites, or the Perizzites, or even about what Abraham, Moses, or Paul have said or done. They lie awake wondering about grocery prices, crop failures, quarrels with a girlfriend, diagnosis of a malignancy, the rat race where only rats seem to win."

Can God make a difference in this world? Does He care about the problems people face—the problems we face—every day? Sure, He does. Our God cares, and it is the job of the church to let it be known.

Something awesome happens when God encounters mankind, bringing it to salvation, to a richness and ripeness of Christian character. Men become "new creatures; old things pass away." The gospel message is one of authority, and it calls for action. We must let it be known that our God cares about people, that He loves us all.

God **can** make a difference in the everyday lives of people; He **can** make all the difference in the world (this world and the one to come). **That's** the big idea!

Cover Photo by Ed Carlin

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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MINISTRY AS HELPING

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

OFTENTIMES disillusionment is the child of illusion. Our experiences of disappointment grow out of the fact that we had the wrong expectations from the first. This sort of thing happened to me in my early days as a minister. The old cliche about leaving the world a better place was a real vision for me. I expected that the entire experience of helping people would be easy, pleasant, and gratifying. It never occurred to me that it could be anything else.

My coming of age took place rather abruptly during my second year as chaplain to a psychiatric care unit in a Dallas hospital. I had been working with a particular adolescent patient for about six months. He seemed to be making great progress, and when I finally had an opportunity to intercede on his behalf for off-the-unit privileges, I was very pleased to do so. He ran away at the first opportunity and was picked up by the police some 300 miles from Dallas for possession and sale of dangerous drugs. He then simply explained to me that our relationship was merely one of utility.

This experience, along with other factors in my life at that time, tended to make me very cynical about helping people. And many of you could no doubt confirm in your experience the many occasions when someone you sincerely tried to help either rejected your overtures or took advantage of them. For me it was the temptation narratives which contributed very significantly to my recovery of a healthy philosophy of ministry to people.

It is easy to imagine that Jesus told these narratives to the disciples as a way of saying that these were the typical temptations that assailed Him. The stories reveal that Jesus had to make real decisions throughout His life. Many paths were open to Him. Some find this rather simple observation a difficult one to accept. I am not sure why. Perhaps because there is still so much latent docetism in our Christology. Or perhaps we are insensitive to the Early Church's retrospective use of Old Testament prophecy and its concommitant notion of foreordination. More probably Fosdick was correct when he said that we were sometimes fooled by the fact that Jesus won the battle with temptation so completely. We just never suspect that He had any doubts about His mission. But surely we can see that there is no nobility of character in the untried. Innocence is not virtue. Character arises not from the inability to sin but from the ability to conquer our temptations and master our inclinations. We cannot realistically be expected to imitate Christ in any real sense, unless He was really tempted even as we are (Hebrews 2:17, 18; 4:15, 16).

There are two principles to be kept in mind when interpreting these narratives:

Turn the Page



And neither of these concern anything so critically axiomatic as acknowledging the obviously legendary character of the embellishments on these narratives. On the contrary, these two principles are much more concerned with the most correct frames of reference for interpreting the temptations themselves. The first of these I want to attribute to Paul Tournier. It is the notion that the essence of a temptation is never to be located in the area which is not tempting. Although this observation is in one sense merely analytic, still the point is that we are not as careful about applying it as we should be. For example, we often interpret the temptation to turn stones into bread as the desire of Jesus to give into His own hunger after the period of fasting. But it takes no special view of Jesus to regard Him as the type of religious personality for whom this kind of superficial desire would not be tempting in any significant sense. Could we imagine that Mahatma Ghandi, the Baal Shem Tov, or Thomas a Kempis would be even slightly moved from their discipline of the spiritual self by such an obviously selfish and ordinary desire? My first principle of interpretation rules out any such construction and understanding on the first temptation—or any other for that matter.

The second principle which must be kept in mind is that temptations are most acute when they seem to be indicative of the right and reasonable course of action. They are not obvious wrongs. Rather they appear to be the right thing to do. "And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is not strange if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness" (2 Corinthians 11:14, 15).

Having these two principles in hand, let us now consider the first temptation as it is presented in the Matthean redaction. The temptation to turn stones to bread concerns not so much how Jesus would minister or what would constitute success but the very nature of the ministry itself. It would be no temptation for Jesus to turn these stones into bread for Himself, but it would be tempting to do so for others. This is the classic example of the temptation to define one's ministry within the parameters of caring for the physical and material needs of people. Many idealistic and good intentioned people are overcome by this temptation. They assume that the world would be OK if everyone had enough to eat, clothes to wear, a meaningful job, etc. And admittedly all this seems right and reasonable. What a recurring temptation this must have been to Jesus! All around Him was need. But when they gathered in Capernaum to be healed by Him, Jesus went into the other towns to preach (Luke 4:42, 43). Because I stand very much in this tradition, I find it difficult to know all the reasons why Jesus rejected this pattern of ministry. I do think that I know two reasons. First, not all people, churches, or nations want help. For a few, being sick, poor, ignorant, or ineffective has become a way of life. They are like the men at the pool of Bethesda of whom Jesus inquired, "Do you want to be healed?" (John 5:6). The vast majority are so enmeshed in the cycles of their problems that it is simply easier to do nothing than to accept the offer of help. Ironically, many people can find various reasons why the help you offer is not enough or not sincere, etc. Helping is, at the very least, a two-way street.

Second, human sinfulness, as Reinhold Niebuhr exposed so well, cuts through all material and physical conditions. There is a deeper hunger in man's spirit. Man does not live by bread alone. Jesus obviously realized this, and He aimed His ministry at these more basic needs. But before we leave the discussion of this temptation it is well that we remember that Jesus cared a great deal and provided much for the physical and material needs of the people His ministry touched. There is enough that is right about this form of ministry that we escape the necessity of caring for the physical and material needs of people at the cost of an authentically Christian ministry. When answering the question of John the Baptist regarding whether Jesus was the holy one sent from God, Jesus answered that the lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear, and the poor have the gospel preached to them (Matthew 11:2-6). And when picturing the final judgment, Jesus reveals surprisingly objective criteria for judging the righteous (Matthew 25:31-46).

The temptation to jump from the temple concerns the needs to inspire devotion and the proper way to do so. It cannot be seriously thought that Jesus entertained the notion of jumping from the temple pinnacle. However, it would have apparently been tempting to have used His power as a way of avoiding the consequences of His own message and of God's love. The tempter's observation is after all, "On their hands they

(Continued on Page 15)

MOC SPRING CONVOCATION – A CHALLENGE TO BE A HOLY NATION

by Pepper Worthington

"HE that endures to the end shall be saved," said Dr. Burkette Raper to the Mount Olive College students at Spring Convocation, January 30. "There are times in the lives of all of us when we need a new beginning in our personal lives. There are also times when we need a new beginning in our education. Today our nation is seeking a new beginning with the Inauguration of the 40th President of the United States."

Speaking to the student body, Dr. Raper reminded the students, "We have admitted you because you have asked us. You wanted to learn and to grow within the purpose and program of Mount Olive College. Our commitment is to Christian education, and this commitment determines our policies and our decisions. Our goal is to help you to obtain the education you need to become the man or woman you were **created to be.**"

In the Convocation atmosphere of a new beginning, of a new period of national leadership, of a current joy in the release of the American hostages, Dr. Jerry Wallace, chairman of the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Campbell University, addressed both the students and personnel of the College.

Turning to the Book of Exodus, Dr Wallace focused upon the first inauguration day of a Hebrew leader, Moses, charged to lead the Israelites to form a "kingdom of priests," a "holy nation."

Reflecting upon the spirit of a new beginning, Wallace asked, "What **four things** would you say to the new President which would help him lead us to become a "holy nation," to become a "kingdom of priests?" Silence filled Rodgers Chapel as the students thought. Wallace crisply replied, "These would be the four things I would say to the new President."

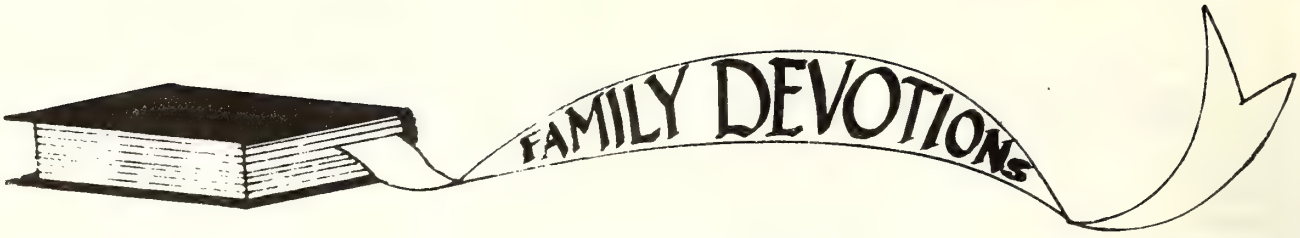
Wallace stated, "I would first ask the President to keep forever in mind the memory of the early Hebrews who were a group of vagabond slaves. These argumentative, unorganized slaves were led to freedom through a man who dreamed. Moses was a dreamer and he climbed to the top of the mountain. The world, Mr. President, has been changed by dreamers. We need a leader, one who is able to believe in the nation, in the people, in God."

Looking across the Chapel, Wallace added his second point. "I would say to the President that **God makes** a nation and

(Continued on Page 14)



Dr. W. Burkette Raper greets Dr. Jerry Wallace



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Scripture Reading—Solomon 2:1-3

AS A ROSE

A newspaper item recently said, "Vast quantities of sweet water buried deep beneath the Sinai and the Negev deserts have been discovered by Israeli geologists. Isotope examination of the water showed that it is ancient, thus proving that the present desert area was once subject to rainfall and was . . . inhabited."

Various Old Testament references affirm that the deserts and wildernesses of Palestine will some day be transformed. This transformation will require vast quantities of water.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Centuries ago the Prophet Isaiah predicted, "The wilderness and the solitary place shall . . . blossom as the rose. In the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water" (Isaiah 35:1, 6, 7).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:1-12

POWER TO THE FAINT

The Bible does not say that the Lord helps those who help themselves. The Lord helps those who admit their helplessness: "O our God . . . we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee" (2 Chronicles 20:12).

Help of the helpless,
O Abide with me.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength" (Isaiah 40:29).

PRAYER THOUGHT

". . . they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 19:15

"AH! 'TIS HEAVEN AT LAST!"

Said Martin Luther, "I would not give one moment of Heaven for all the joy and riches of the world, even if they lasted thousands and thousands of years!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember that "life is a fragment, a moment between two eternities, influenced by all that has preceded, and to influence all that follows."

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:15

SAY THAT AGAIN, ROGER!

"Mommy, I wish the one who stole my tricycle would bring it back and then he would live with us," said Roger.

"But, my boy, why do you want a thief to live with us?"

Roger replied, "Mommy, if he lived with us, he would go to church and be saved, and then he wouldn't be a thief anymore."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The church is not made up of people who are better than the rest, but of people who want to become better than they are."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Scripture Reading—1 John 5

DR. SIMPSON'S CONNECTION WITH GOD

For years, Dr. A. B. Simpson had poor health. When he was only 38 years old, a famous New York physician told him that his days were numbered.

The physician's diagnosis only underscored his physical helplessness. The minister knew that he always preached with great effort. Climbing stairs or even a slight elevation was a suffocating agony of breathlessness.

One day at Old Orchard, Maine, Dr. Simpson attended a unique religious service which sent him back to his Bible to find out for himself about Christ's attitude toward disease. He became convinced that Jesus had always meant healing to be a part of His Gospel—the redemption of man's total being.

Soon after this revelation, Dr. Simpson took a walk

Coming to a pine woods, he sat down on a log to rest. Soon he found himself praying, telling God of his complete helplessness with regard to his physical condition. He then asked Christ to enter him and to become his physical life for all the needs of his body, until his lifework was done.

"There in the woods, I made a connection with God," he said later. "Every fiber in me was tingling with the sense of God's presence!"

Sometime thereafter, Simpson climbed a mountain 3,000 feet high! "When I reached the top," he related joyfully, "the world of weakness and fear was lying at my feet. From that time I had literally a new heart in my breast!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The promise is sure: "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us" (1 John 5:14).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 10:2

SOUL NOURISHMENT

Said Albert Schweitzer, "The interior joy we feel when we have done a good deed, when we feel we have been needed somewhere and have sent a helping hand, is the nourishment the soul requires."

Help me in all the work I do,
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for you,
Must needs be done for others.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us always be mindful of the fact that "joy shared is joy doubled."

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Scripture Reading—Numbers 14:18

DEPTH OF MERCY

Depth of mercy! can there be
Mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear,
Me, the chief of sinners, spare?

There for me the Saviour stands,
Shows His wounds and spreads His hands,
God is love! I know, I feel;
Jesus weeps and loves me still.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The fact that you have never experienced the love of God does not prove it doesn't exist."

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

PLEASE NOTE

The Central District Youth Fellowship will meet March 14, 1981, at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church. The date for this meeting was given as March 4 in the January 28 issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. More information about this meeting will be forthcoming from Lynn Chappelear, CDYF Corresponding Secretary.

—Editorial Department

"The love that unites Christians is stronger than the differences that divide them."

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This is just a note to say, "Thanks," for your support to the Home Mission field, of our denomination. As pastor of the Cape Colony Mission, in Edenton, I feel you should be aware of the ministry your support has enabled us to accomplish. Even though you may never have visited one of your home mission points, your gifts have preceded your presence. A special people, you have accepted a special call to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost, and dying world.

In my brief ministry at the Cape Colony Mission, I have seen miracles performed in the lives of people. Twenty-two persons have been baptized in a period of 18 months. (February 8 is the tentative date for the baptism of 4 others who have accepted Christ during the winter months.) Through your support—spiritual and financial—each of these miracles was performed by God's hand. The testimonies of these people, plus the rededication of their lives to God, by 30 others, will live forever.

To say, "THANKS," just doesn't seem to be enough, but it's the only word I can find to express our appreciation for what you've done.

THANKS for the souls you helped save.
THANKS for the love you share each day.
THANKS for lives that have been reborn.
THANKS for God's Spirit that was outpoured.
THANKS for those who renewed their vows.
THANKS for support—then, and now.

May the God of Peace be with you,

The Rev. Ronnie Mohn,
for Cape Colony Mission

NEWS & NOTES

First Church, Kinston Hosts Reception for Pastor



Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Overman, Tina and Jeff

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, North Carolina, hosted a "get acquainted" reception for its new pastor, the Rev. C. H. Overman, and his family, on Sunday night, January 25, 1981, in the educational building.

Members and guests were greeted at the door by Mrs. Nina Grace Register and Mrs. Linda Hines and given name tags.

Mrs. Joyce Tyndall, Auxiliary President, welcomed everyone on behalf of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Tyndall introduced Mr. and Mrs. Overman, Tina and Jeff. A carnation corsage and a boutonniere were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Overman by Mrs. Tyndall and Mrs. Vickie Wade.

Mrs. Tyndall offered the invocation after which the honorees led the refreshment line. Approximately 45 members and guests attended.

Mr. Overman began his pastorate of the Kinston church on January 18, 1981.

Jerry Taylor Family to Appear at Youth Meeting

The Third Union District Youth Fellowship of the Eastern Conference will hold its February meeting at the Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Deep Run, North Carolina, on February 21, at 7:30 p.m. The Revelators, also known as the Jerry Taylor family, will present a puppet show program titled "Noah's Ark."

The Jerry Taylor family has been making appearances in behalf of the Children's Home at Middlesex and giving the offerings to the Home. The income from the sale of tapes and their gospel records is the means by which this group gets support from these appearances. Young people who enjoy gospel music and some of the best performances in Christian puppet ministry should attend this youth service.

The Smith's New Home church is located ten miles south of Kinston on Highway 258. The youth of this church along with the pastor, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, extend a special invitation to everyone to attend.

Rock of Zion Honors Mrs. Mattie Lane



Mrs. Mattie Lane

Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Grantsboro dedicated its new baptistry in honor of Mrs. Mattie Lane in special services on February 1, 1981. The baptistry, which was installed by Mr. Carol Brinson and Mr. Bill Luck, is part of a church building program which includes new classrooms. The baptistry features a stained glass portraying the baptism of Jesus.

Mrs. Lane celebrated her ninety-ninth birthday on January 31, 1981. She still is in good health and regularly attends church and Woman's Auxiliary meetings. Part of the litany used in the service follows:

> For ninety-nine years of natural life and eighty years of new life in Christ; for faithfulness to and love for her church which inspires us all; to our be-

loved Mrs. Mattie Lane . . . we dedicate our baptistry.

With several members of her family present, Mrs. Lane was presented a plaque which will be placed beneath the baptistry opening. The people of Rock of Zion pray that she will have the opportunity to see many people use the new baptistry.

Stewardship Study Course Scheduled

Mrs. Mamie Lee Rouse will teach a Stewardship Study Course, Sunday evening, February 15, at First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston. Mrs. Rouse will use Watchman Nee's book, **Sit, Walk, Stand,** as her text. This service will begin at 7 p.m.

The Rev. C. H. Overman is pastor of the church.

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for your district convention. The dues are $ .40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep $ .20 and send $ .20 to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to depend upon you.

Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

The North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet May 14, with Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina. The Eastern District will host the convention. Watch **The Free Will Baptist** for a map of directions to the church.

Rena Kirk

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Treasurer's Report

End of Third Quarter, January 31, 1981

Balance in Bank, October 31, 1980			$ 4,324.60
Receipts			
General Fund			
Life Membership Fees	$ 20.00		
Contributions	50.19		
Promotional Fund (CSF)	80.00		
Per Capita Dues	2.40		
Interest	210.00	362.59	
Denominational Enterprises		10,553.06	
Total Receipts			10,915.65
Total for Which to Account			$15,240.25
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 560.85	
Denominational Enterprises		10,553.06	
Total Disbursed			11,113.91
Balance in Bank, January 31, 1981			$ 4,126.34
Banks			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (Checking)		$ 1,126.34	
Church Finance Association		3,000.00	
Total		$ 4,126.34	

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		$ 1,153.69	$ 1,153.69
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	134.33		
Mexico	225.00		
Lugo's Wife's Medical Expense	401.00		
India	40.00		
Bibles	80.00		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	1,287.92	2,168.25	2,168.25
Central Conference Missions		15.00	15.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	61.10		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	40.50		
College Hall	297.80		
Anna Phillips Scholarship Aid Fund	94.00		
Books	35.00		
State Project (Chapel Parking Lot)	563.98		
Lloyd Vernon Memorial Fund	50.00	1,142.38	1,142.38
Free Will Baptist Children's Home:			
General Fund	1,902.58		
Clothing	100.00		
Child Support	395.00		
Child's Christmas Gift	80.00		
Sheets and Towels	75.00		
Music Lessons	60.00		

(Continued on Page 15)

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

FREE WILL BAPTIST FAMILY SERVICES BEGIN NEW SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH

No one would deny the fact that families are in crisis today; the divorce rate soars, even among church families. Children are becoming more violent and aggressive. One out of 10 American children under 18 hit, beat, stab or shoot their parents; 6 percent of all murders are committed by children who shoot their parents. Child abuse is rampant, as many as 1,000,000 incidents per year. Sixteen percent of marriages result in spouse abuse. One out of every 5 marriages ends in divorce, 1 out of every 2 in some areas. Elderly parents are being beaten, robbed, and left hungry and cold by their own children. "Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death" (Mark 13:12).

Is there any hope, is there anyone to help? Yes, there is hope and help for families. First of all, many churches have pastors who are quite capable of offering counsel and guidance in marital problems and parent-child problems, as well. Church members should not be reluctant to seek their pastor's help in times of crisis.

Oftimes, pastors, as well as lay persons, will need assistance with some family crisis. Where does a pastor turn to find material to help him deal with families in crisis? Free Will Baptist Family Services offer bibliographies and counseling materials and can refer pastors and lay persons to capable marriage and family counselors and counselors who can help with problems with your children. We are developing a library of counseling materials for the paraprofessional, the pastor, and the concerned parent.

In order to reach the needs of our children and retirees on our campuses at Middlesex, as well as families in our local churches, we have associates who will soon be able to offer workshops and seminars in the local church to help parents and their children deal with the pressures of modern-day society.

Pastors who have special skills in counseling are asked to contact us so we can develop a full range of services within the scope of our own church to meet the needs of our people.

We welcome your comments, encouragement, and advice as we attempt to broaden our services to our people. More than 700 children have been ministered to through our Children's Home; there will be many more who will receive care at the Home in the year to come. Six faithful Free Will Baptists are enjoying our retirement ministry, which is struggling to burst forth into a full range of services for elderly Free Will Baptists, as a bud in the Spring bursts into a flower. Now, the unfolding of yet another ministry to families begins—counseling services, resources and workshops for our families and churches.

Free Will Baptist Family Services—programs for children, families, and the retired; programs for Free Will Baptist people who need assistance from time to time in making their homelife as happy and fulfilling as God intended it to be.

Have you renewed your subscription to the Free Will Baptist?

IN MEMORY OF LULA BEAMAN

She was . . .
a mother who made her home with love,
a grandmother who made each grandchild feel special,
a dear friend to all who knew her,
God's gift of happiness, honesty and love to me.

The angels came one year ago on January 19. She lives with the Lord now, but we know she still loves us. We love her and miss her very much.

Her loving daughter,
Doris Shirley

(Mrs. Beaman was a member of Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, NC.)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FROM AFRICA TO MOUNT OLIVE

A Foreign Student Chooses MOC

by Peter Tingem



Peter Y. Thingpen, a freshman at MOC, is a religious major from Bamenda, Cameroon, on the coast of Africa.

I was born into a polygamous tribe, one in which having more than one wife is common practice. My father has six wives.

My mother was one of the first converts when Christianity was introduced to my tribe by the American Baptist Missionaries at the beginning of the 20th century. My mother brought me to Christ when I was 14 years old.

The missionaries found it difficult to integrate Christianity into my society because Christian principles conflicted with the accepted norms of my tribe. Most children of my tribe were initiated into secret societies around the age of 14. The children in secret societies were obligated to carry sacrifices to pagan gods.

I attended Baptist Mission Institutions and taught in a Baptist Mission school when I graduated from high school. My greatest ambition was to come to the United States of America. In the United States I felt that I could get a Christian-oriented education which would enable me to witness the saving power of Jesus Christ better to my people who have not heard the Word of God and are dying in sin.

I went to the United States Embassy in my country in search of a school that met my Christian requirements and offered individual student care. After looking through a booklet of colleges and their objectives, I chose Mount Olive College.

I felt that Mount Olive could best prepare me for God's work upon my return home. I then applied to the college and was accepted.

When I arrived at Mount Olive College I was moved by the great love and care manifested to me by the college president and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper. I had lost my luggage in Paris on my way to Mount Olive. Dr. and Mrs. Raper treated me as their own son and provided for my needs. I also was made very happy by the way the faculty members and students helped me adjust to the American culture. I feel at home at Mount Olive College, and I know my coming to the College was God's plan. I am sure that He wanted me to come to Mount Olive and study more about Him so I can relate my knowledge to my people.

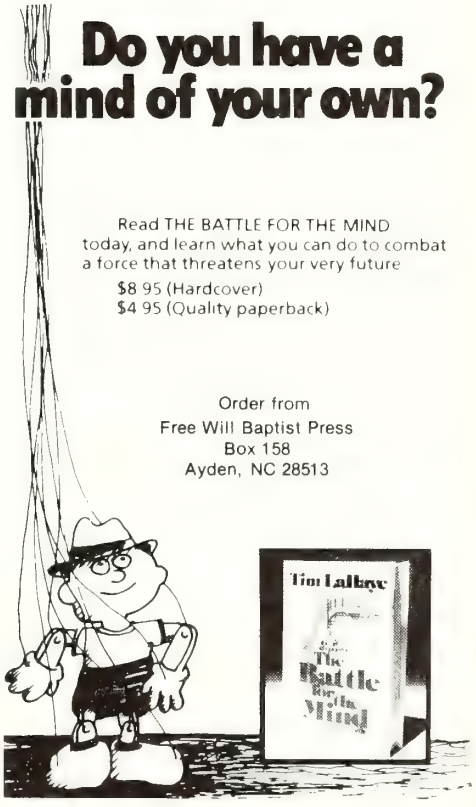
DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest minister at Davis Free Will Baptist Church in Carteret County on Sunday, February 15, at 11 a.m. He also will teach the Adult Sunday School Class at 10 a.m.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM

The New Creations, a 10-member gospel witnessing team from Mount Olive College, is scheduled to perform at 11 a.m. on February 15, at Faith Mission Free Will Baptist Church in Brunswick County. That same evening, the group will be at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Fayetteville for a 7 p.m. service.

Miss Caroline Castelloe, director for the New Creations and counselor at the College, encourages every to attend these services.



St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 22

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Lesson Text: Matthew 18:1-6, 15-22

Memory Verse: Matthew 18:4

I. INTRODUCTION

Last week's lesson saw Jesus in the vicinity of Caesarea Philippi, where Peter made the great confession and Jesus clearly predicted His death that was to take place in Jerusalem. Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John up into a high mountain, probably Mount Hermon, and was transfigured before them there. When they came down from the mountain, Jesus healed a demoniac boy. Thereafter Jesus and His disciples made their way southward through Galilee (Mark 9:30) toward Capernaum (Mark 9:34; Matthew 17:24). As they journeyed, Jesus again spoke of His impending death; also, while they traveled, the disciples argued among themselves concerning who would be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. As they arrived in Capernaum Jesus had a brief discussion with Peter about the payment of the temple tax. It was during this discussion that the other disciples came to Jesus with the question in the first verse of today's text.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today's lesson deals with two great principles that God has given for the regulation of His people. First, there is the principle of humility, and second, there is the principle of discipline. Make it your aim as you teach today to show the need for these two things in the church today.

B. If Christians love one another and do not have a sense of overimportance concerning themselves, this matter of humility usually takes care of itself.

C. Jesus not only taught the principle of humility, but He gave us an example of it in the person of a small child.

D. The second part of the lesson shows that we should develop a more forgiving attitude toward one another if we expect our Heavenly Father to forgive us.

E. If we fail to forgive one another, it hurts us more than it does the person we refuse to forgive.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Henry Drummond once said, "Instead of allowing yourself to be so unhappy, just let your love grow as God wants it to grow; seek goodness in others, love more persons more; love them more impersonally, more unselfishly, without thought of return. The return, never fear, will take care of itself."

B. Do people know that you love them? You know, they will know it if it's true without your having to tell them. If you have to tell people you love them —for them to know it— chances are you really don't.

C. It's easy to love people who love us back, but what about those who have hurt us? Are we supposed to love them too? Are we one of those persons who say, "I'll forgive you, but I can't forget what you've done to me"? Amy Carmichael wrote, "If I say, 'Yes, I forgive you, but I can't forget,' as though the God, who twice a day washes all the sands on all the shores of all the world, could not wash such memories from my mind, then I know nothing of Calvary love."

D. The sweetest love in the world is that of a small child. Could that be the reason Jesus wants us to be more childlike (not childish!) in our relationship with others? To be childlike calls for humility; but after all, love and humility are cousins.

E. One of the strongest tests of brotherly love is to see the fault in another and love him anyhow, and then do all we can to help him. Love lifts up a brother when he is fallen; hate keeps him down.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

COMING EVENTS

February—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Christian Education Month

February 18—Children's Home Board of Directors meet at 9:30 a.m., Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex

February 23—Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College, at 9:30 a.m., in Sawyer Room of Moye Library

February 26—Advisory Committee on Four-year Curriculum for Ministerial Students, at 9:30 a.m., in Sawyer Room of Moye Library

March 7—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.; the program will conclude at 12:30 p.m., followed by lunch at the Winterville Community Building.

Home Missions

submitted by Taylor Hill

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR
October 1, 1980—December 31, 1980

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	$ 196.96
Albemarle Sunday School Convention	5.50
Albemarle Union Meeting	17.00
Hickory Chapel	205.73
Saint Paul	131.59
Shiloh	72.50
Sidney	459.78
Union Chapel	46.61
Total	$1,135.67

CAPE FEAR

Bethel (Johnston County)	$ 100.00
Cape Fear Union	132.72
Eastover Mission	50.33
Goldsboro, First	156.60
Haymount Mission	350.00
Hopewell	78.24
Johnston Union	120.00
Lee's Chapel	151.15
Oak Grove	25.00
Powhatan	75.24
Shady Grove	19.60
Smithfield, First	10.00
Smyrna	50.00
Victory Mission	29.71
Total	$1,348.59

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 10.00
Ayden	20.00
Bethany	117.22
Black Jack	87.33
Daniels Chapel	307.00
Dawson's Grove	10.00
Dilda's Grove	30.00
Edgewood	40.25
Elm Grove	14.05
Free Union (Greene County)	11.00
Friendship (Greene County)	154.81
Greenville, First	160.00
Grimsley	89.50
Gum Swamp	5.00
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Hickory Grove	60.83
Howell Swamp	12.00
Hugo	133.65
Hull Road	139.00
King's Cross Roads	26.42
LaGrange	96.49
Little Creek (Greene County)	15.00
Marlboro	10.00
Ormondsville	10.00
Otter's Creek	148.41
Owens Chapel	100.00
Peace	22.50
Piney Grove	50.00
Pleasant Hill	10.00
Reedy Branch	191.14
Roanoke Rapids	37.33
Rocky Mount, First	85.00
Rose Hill	170.00
Saratoga	60.00
Second Union	6.29
Spring Branch	210.00
Tarboro, First	385.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston, First	164.66
Winterville	304.22
Total	$3,744.10

EASTERN

Antioch	$ 100.00
Bridgeton	66.00
Core Creek	67.40
Crab Point	129.00
Croatan	20.00
Deep Run	40.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Faith Mission	13.58
Fifth Sunday School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union	35.00
Holly Springs (Newport)	528.72
Jackson Heights	3.00
Kinston, First	20.00
Macedonia	150.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	50.00
Mount Zion (Beulaville)	25.00
New Haven	50.00
Oak Grove	10.50
Oriental	15.70
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrim's Home	150.00
Pilgrims Rest	50.00
Sandy Plain	274.07
St. Mary's (New Bern)	270.00
Sound View	150.00
Third Union	30.00
Wardens Grove	16.22
Welcome Home	125.00
White Oak Grove	2.00
Wintergreen	23.00
Total	$2,509.19

INDIVIDUALS

Baker, Linda and Fred	$ 45.00
Furlough, David H.	10.00
Harris, Dennis I.	75.00
Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Robert	50.00
Kennedy, Arthur	200.00
Raper, W. Burkette	25.00
Riley, Mrs. Dianne	20.00
Roper, Mr. and Mrs. E. G.	10.00
Sasser, Ada B.	25.00
Total	$ 460.00

PIEDMONT

East Rockingham	$ 486.85
Hopewell (Hamlet)	60.00
Total	$ 546.85

PEE DEE

Cypress Creek	$ 53.32
Oak Grove	591.52
Pee Dee Association	140.04
White Oak	25.75
Total	$ 810.63

WESTERN

Barnes Hill	$ 200.00
Branch Chapel	500.00
Calvary	50.00
Durham, First	45.00
Elwood Lane	162.93
Everett Chapel	336.02
First Union	100.00
Flood's Chapel	15.00
Free Union (Nash County)	147.40
Fremont	162.50
Friendship (Johnston County)	2.00
Holly Springs (Johnston County)	20.00
Kenly	35.74
Little Rock	136.00
Living Waters	60.00
Marsh Swamp	20.00
Micro	37.81
Milbournie	2.50
Oak Grove (Wilson County)	77.97
People's Chapel	57.00
Piney Grove (Kenly)	77.00
Pine Level	200.00
Pleasant Grove	500.00
Pleasant Hill	150.00
Rains Cross Roads	45.00
Rock Springs	48.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	17.50
St Mary's (Wilson County)	240.00
Stancil's Chapel	39.00
Stoney Creek	1,000.00
Trinity	200.00
Unity	79.00
Union Grove (Fremont)	76.50
Western District Youth Fellowship	25.00
Western District Auxiliary Convention	214.89
Wilson, First	187.50
Total	$5,417.26

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Christian Service Fund	$ 79.84

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS: $16,052.13

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Jack Lassiter announces that he is available for any type of evangelistic meetings. (This includes spring, fall and youth revivals). He may be contacted at 1112 Delano Avenue, Wilson, NC 27893, or by calling 291-8443.

A MESSAGE FROM BILLY GRAHAM

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN NATIONAL SAFETY SABBATH

As you seat yourself in your house of worship during the observance of National Safety Sabbath, February 13-14-15, take a moment to look at your loved ones and at your neighbors in the congregation.

What if next week, one or more of them were not there because their lives had been taken in a tragic accident?



In our faith, we find a fellowship that binds us together in the Lord and in our unity as human beings. It is that warm fellowship which creates the responsibility we all share for the welfare of each other.

That responsibility includes our actions to prevent accidents that kill or seriously disable our fellow worshippers.

Our actions must always be to live our lives in such a way that we do not create conditions that lead to accidents to ourselves or others. Our actions must always be to educate our children in the ways of safety; our actions must always be to preserve all life in grateful recognition of the Lord who gave us that life.

On Safety Sabbath, pray for the safety of your family and of all whom you know. Pray for guidance that will lead your actions along the paths of safety for yourself and others.

There is an undeniable logic to the observance of Safety Sabbath in our nation's houses of worship. The religious lessons of the ages include the deeply human lesson of love of one's self and of one's neighbors. This love is expressed enormously when we act at all times to prevent accidents and their terrible toll of suffering and loss.

Pray on this Safety Sabbath, pray for the safety of every man, woman and child in our nation.

Every day of your life keep that prayer in mind.

MOC CONVOCATION

(Continued from Page 5)

God ordains leaders. A leader is one who is anointed of God and this man can become the **ordained leader** of America and the world.

Focusing upon the leadership in a new beginning, Wallace emphasized, "God gives the leader more than what he has. The leader needs more than what he has. Reagan comes to us from Hollywood, but he can see burning bushes in the world as God comes to him, speaks to him, and as he listens."

Adding a third point to his list of suggestions to the new President, Wallace said, "I would remind him of the things we need most in America—of **justice, mercy,** and **a pure walk.** I would remind him of the importance of doing what's **right by everybody.** If we can let justice flow like waters of the great ocean, the world will honor us and respect us."

In answer to the question, what does the Lord want from us, Dr. Wallace quoted Micah 6:8: ". . . to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God."

The fourth challenge to the President which Wallace offered was the challenge of asking the people of America to do more. Wallace observed, "I have been asked for too little." He added, "We have a problem in America. We ask for too little from people. We need to give people the opportunity to make their commitment. We need to ask the people to meet us at the mountain, to purify themselves as they wash their garments, to walk with a leadership of justice and mercy."

Wallace looked up and challenged all the Mount Olive College students. "God can do great things. Be a dreamer. We can become a **holy** nation. We can become a **kingdom of priests.** As a man of God, I want to say, 'God bless you! God bless America!' "



MINISTRY AS HELPING

(Continued from Page 4)

will bear you up." This is the temptation to win a following without really getting involved. The voice of the tempter seems to haunt Jesus, "Don't dirty your hands with publicans and sinners, but show us a sign and we will believe." Or at the Caesarea Philippi experience, Peter replies to Jesus' proclamation that He must suffer by saying, "Lord, be it far from you." Or take the words of the crowd at the Crucifixion, "Come down and we will believe." And do we perhaps see this temptation surfacing in Jesus' life when He says, "If it be possible, let this cup pass?" A noninvolvement style of ministry is fast, practical, and impressive. It is much easier than teaching, guiding, and patiently nurturing. It is the temptation to expect not to suffer—the temptation to help at a distance.

I do not know all the reasons why Jesus rejected this temptation. But it does seem clear that Jesus has no faith in any method for inspiring a following other than the consistency of His commitment to the people, even if it means suffering. Indeed, especially as it means suffering. Surely Abelard was at least partly right when he interpreted the atonement in terms of the influence of the suffering lover as the only way to change a man's heart to reconciliation. The only way to break the cycle of evil and inspire devotion is to suffer.

The temptation to bow down to Satan concerns the definition of a successful ministry. It would have been no temptation for Jesus to bow down to Satan, whatever that might mean. It would however be tempting to decide in favor of a material kingdom. This is the temptation to consider successful only that which is tangible. Much of modern day millenialism is of the same fabric. Jesus' people cried to Him for a kingdom of righteousness on earth—and this seems such a right and reasonable request. What a frightful recurring temptation this was in Jesus' life. So intense was the clamouring that Caiaphas is presented as having been persuaded that Jesus must die or else be the center of revolution. But Jesus decided in favor of a spiritual kingdom, and although every political kingdom of His day has vanished into the sea of history, the kingdom "not of this world" yet endures in the hearts of men. Eschatologically speaking, not just all of the kingdom of His day but the kingdoms of every epoch tarnish under the light of His eternal kingdom.

Jesus' temptations are instructive because they keep us from misunderstanding the nature of Christian ministry in the area of helping others. Many give up on our vocation because they have the wrong expectations to begin with. Perhaps rethinking our philosophy of ministry along the lines of the temptations of Jesus might help us to remember that the disciple is not greater than His master.

Ronnie L. Littlejohn
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WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from Page 9)

In Memory of			
Mrs. Lottie Fowler	60.00		
State Project (Media Center)	766.73	3,439.31	3,439.31
Superannuation		417.20	417.20
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.			
Building Fund		643.23	643.23
Retirement Homes, Inc.		270.20	270.20
Life Membership Fees,			
(Children's Home)		50.00	50.00
State Youth Convention		533.80	533.80
*Christian Service Fund:			
Mount Olive College	160.00		
Missions	160.00		
Children's Home	120.00		
Cragmont	120.00		
Superannuation	80.00		
Retirement Homes	80.00	720.00	720.00
Totals		$10.553.06	$10,553.06

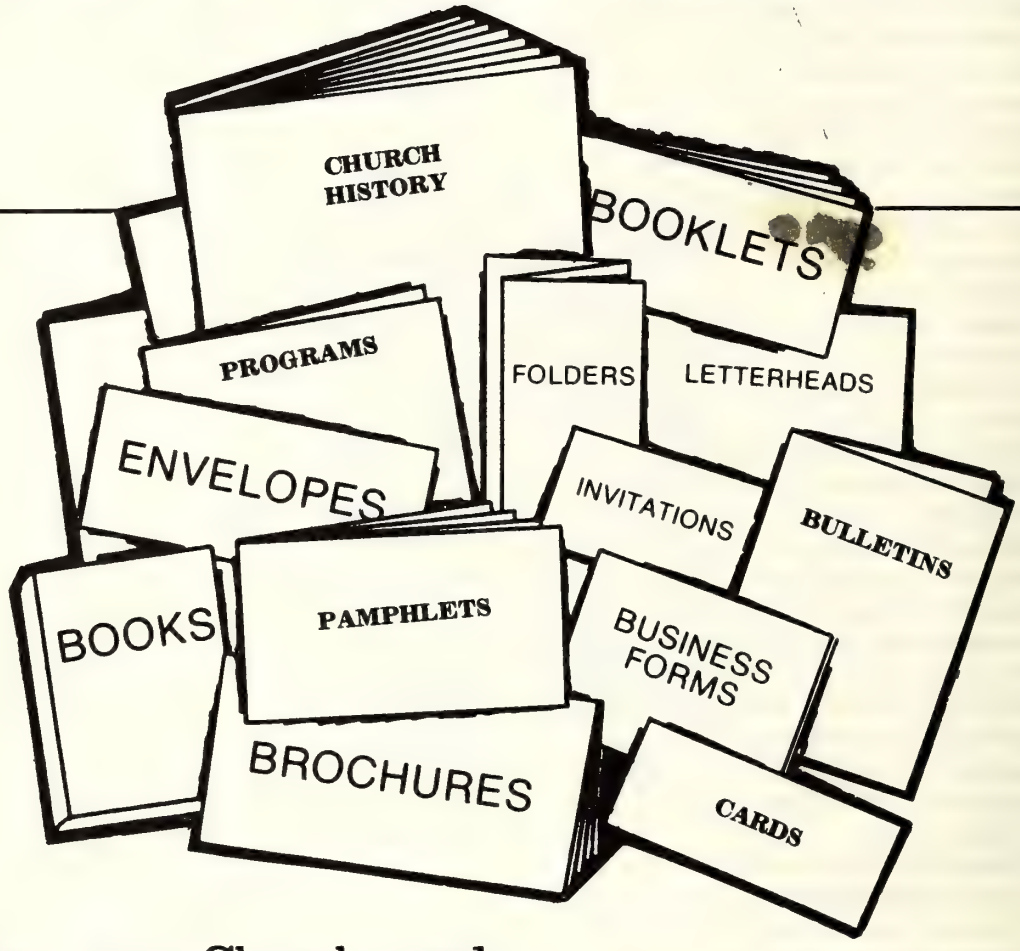
*10 percent retained for Promotional (see receipts $80.00)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

RECEIVE PAPER

Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, has now joined the distinctive group of churches who are participating in "The Bundle Plan," whereby THE FREE WILL BAPTIST is sent to one individual in lots of 25 or more. That individual is responsible for their distribution. We congratulate **and** thank Unity church. The Rev. Kenneth Forehand pastors this congregation.

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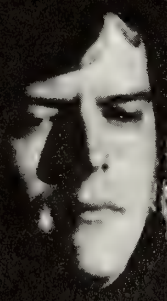
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The Free Will Baptist



Just because a person has found an acquaintance, it does not mean he has made a friend. There is a difference.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Have You Met The New Folks in Town?

There is a new family in town. Have you met them? They are the Joneses. Mr. Jones was recently transferred here. They seem to be a nice family; the children are all well-groomed and quite mannerly. From what I hear, they are really glad they found a new church, one where the gospel is preached. But rumor has it, they just don't feel as though they "fit in." Mr. Jones has said that he often leaves church without so much as a handshake; Mrs. Jones claims she has never had a smile directed her way. I find that hard to believe; don't you? The children? Well, they are always the last to be chosen whenever the class is playing a game. But you know how that goes—they are so quiet, you would hardly ever see them sitting over there in the corner. Someone said they went to another church Sunday. I don't know. I don't ever get to see them.

Our churches are filled with lonely people like the Joneses. They attend church services regularly; they listen attentively as the Word of God is faithfully preached; they worship in the company of many who truly "love God." **But** they are unable to find that which they so desperately need—total acceptance and genuine fellowship. These individuals go to class meetings, are members of auxiliaries, help out at most social functions, yet they are lonely, painfully so. Since they have not been assimilated into the church family, they know little of the warm fellowship of which the Scriptures speak.

What a contrast! The Early Church met together, often daily. They shared their possessions and walked miles to see one another, to offer help. What has happened? (Oh, I know what you are thinking. You **are** busy.) Dr. John Drane, a professor at a secular Scottish university said, "My students find the whole concept of the church in the New Testament supremely relevant and meaningful, but when they look for such a church in the local community they find outright contradictions between the church as it is and the church as it ought to be."

It is no secret that churches are often socially stratified; there are "ins" and "outs." Cliques are quite normal, for individuals usually mingle with those who have similar interests and backgrounds. The tragedy is not that people tend to form their own groups; it is that some people are not accepted by **any** group—or at least they don't feel as though they are. No time is this more evident than "when those in a little group habitually sit together and talk together to the exclusion of the rest of the church family"; some people even get to church early to make sure they can sit with "so and so."

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 98 Number 7

February 18, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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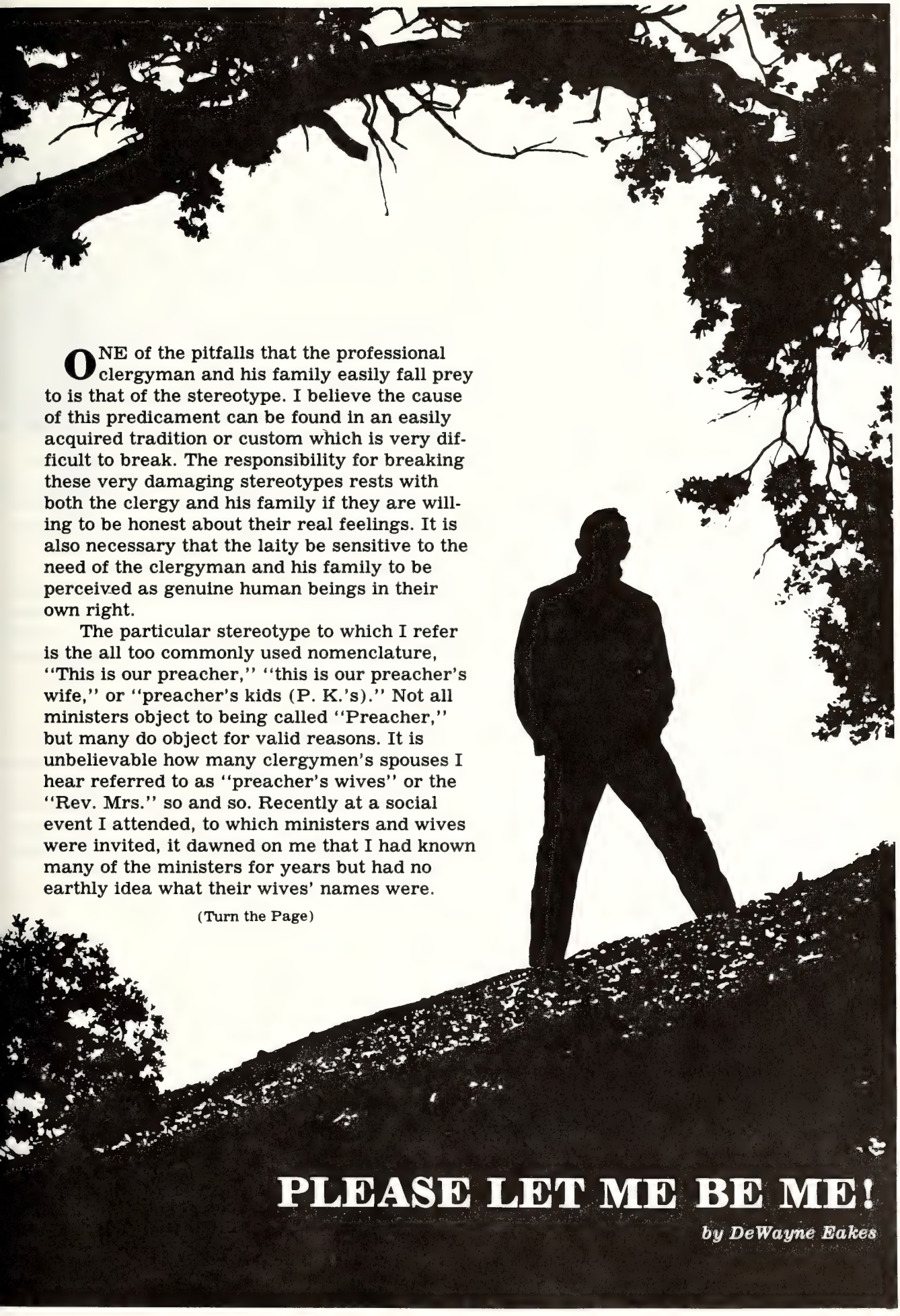
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PLEASE LET ME BE ME!

by DeWayne Eakes

ONE of the pitfalls that the professional clergyman and his family easily fall prey to is that of the stereotype. I believe the cause of this predicament can be found in an easily acquired tradition or custom which is very difficult to break. The responsibility for breaking these very damaging stereotypes rests with both the clergy and his family if they are willing to be honest about their real feelings. It is also necessary that the laity be sensitive to the need of the clergyman and his family to be perceived as genuine human beings in their own right.

The particular stereotype to which I refer is the all too commonly used nomenclature, "This is our preacher," "this is our preacher's wife," or "preacher's kids (P. K.'s)." Not all ministers object to being called "Preacher," but many do object for valid reasons. It is unbelievable how many clergymen's spouses I hear referred to as "preacher's wives" or the "Rev. Mrs." so and so. Recently at a social event I attended, to which ministers and wives were invited, it dawned on me that I had known many of the ministers for years but had no earthly idea what their wives' names were.

(Turn the Page)

Preaching is a very important part of a local minister's job. It certainly is not an adequate job description; neither is it his name. The noun "minister" means "a clergyman serving a church; spiritual guide; pastor." It comes from the verb which means "to attend (to comforts or wants); act as servant; to be of service."[1] In my opinion the noun "minister" is a much more appropriate title than "preacher." An older term used for the clergy, not much used now is "parson." The word is derived from the Medieval Latin "persona," denoting personhood, character. The blacks in the ante-bellum South referred to their minister as "Parson." He was "the significant person" to whom the community looked for leadership in both spiritual and secular matters. Also in the early days of this nation and the colonial period the local parson was normally the best educated person and was held in high esteem by the community. To my way of thinking the current usage of the term "Preacher" and its derivatives applied to family members is often not intended as complimentary and tends to depersonalize the persons to whom the terms are applied. Also in many instances, socially it is used to warn others to cool it, watch your language or be on your best behavior.

My father was a farmer, but I never recall my mother being called "the farmer's wife" or my being referred to as a "farmer's kid." It's really very simple just to extend to your minister and his family the same courtesies you expect. Don't stereotype me, give me a chance! Don't pigeonhole me and file me away, let me be me! Please! It is not only unfair to "typecast" the minister and members of his family, it is also being highly insensitive to them as persons. Ministers and their families are human beings and they share the same needs, emotions and feelings that every other human being has. This is true even though some ministers and wives feel compelled to pretend to be beyond the sphere of human needs, human weaknesses and sin. It is not wrong to be human; human is what we all are, sometimes for better, sometimes for worse!

Unfortunately many persons among both clergy and laity have developed and/or accepted a "double-standard" concerning the humanity of the minister and his family. It is acceptable behavior for others to "blow their top" but if the minister does, you hear things like, "and he claims to be a preacher." If the minister's wife gets upset and shows it, "did you see how the preacher's wife acted up?" Let the minister's child get into trouble and you hear "preacher's children are always the _____." If a minister asks for a raise or moves to a larger church, "He is in it for the money." If a lay person passes up an opportunity for more pay or a better job people think he is crazy. If problems arise in the church it is easier for the minister to move instead of facing the problem and mutually resolving it. Whatever goes wrong in the church is the minister's responsibility, and ministers usually say everything is the church's fault. The result is sometimes ministers leave, and unresolved congregational problems remain or the same problems move on to the minister's next pastorate.



What about the minister's needs? What about the need of his family for financial security, lasting roots and permanent relationships, a home of their own and the ability to provide a quality education for their children? The needs of the minister and his family are the same needs of your family. The strengths and weaknesses, joys and traumas of the minister's family are similar in kind to yours because we too are human beings. Every minister, his wife and their children deserve to be seen by the laity as human beings with human needs, strengths and weaknesses. We really enjoy it when people introduce us to others by our names without adding a "handle" as if to warn people to be on their best behavior. People who have the sensitivity to respond to their minister and his family as persons first, also have the sensitivity to introduce the minister as such when it is appropriate.

Speaking for me and my family I say thank God for those people who will let me and my family be real people! You help us more than you can ever know!

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[1]World Book Dictionary, Thorndike & Barnhart, 1974. Doubleday & Co., Inc., Chicago, Ill.



THE POWER OF THE WORD

"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

We live in an age of power—of divers sorts and kinds. Our western culture is dependent upon power for energy, the power of governments, power to carry on the greatest society in the world. **YET** many souls have never realized the power that can change the heart and soul—the Bible, the Word of God. What would happen if men would truly read and receive the truth of the Word in their hearts and lives? Today's problems would pass away, for the Word is powerful enough to change the hearts of men, to implant moral and spiritual principles that would solve our spiritual ills.

What does the Bible say about itself? (Notes from **Thompson's Chain Reference**)

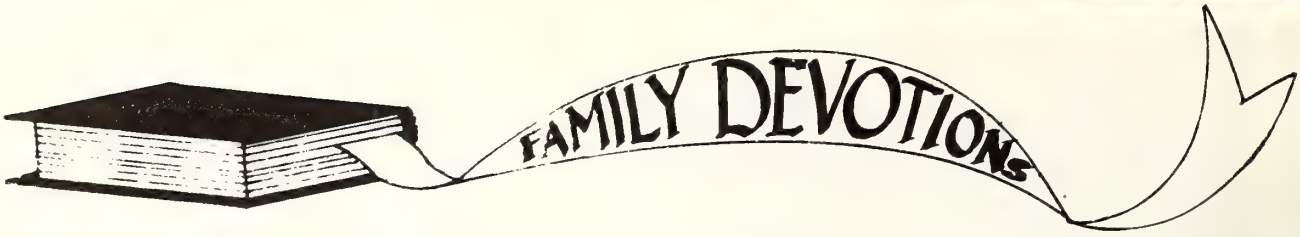
1. It is a devouring flame.
   "Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them" (Jeremiah 5:14).
2. It is a crushing hammer.
   "Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD: and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?" (Jeremiah 23:29).
3. It is a life-giving force.
   "So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone" (Ezekiel 37:7). See Acts 19:20.
4. It is a saving power.
   "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).
5. It is a defensive weapon.
   "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).
6. It is a probing instrument.
   (See text, Hebrews 4:12.)

The power of the Word may be known in all situations of life, pleasant and unpleasant, good or bad; it has an appeal to the needs of the soul and it harmonizes the need found within our hearts to praise God.

There is a place in the Bible to look at all times.

When God seems far away, read Psalm 139.
When sorrowful, read John 14, Psalm 46.
When men fail you, read Psalm 27.
When you have sinned, read Psalm 51, 1 John 1.
When you worry, read Matthew 6:19-34, Psalm 43.
When in sickness, read Psalm 41.
When in danger, read Psalm 91.
When you have the blues, read Psalm 34.
When you are discouraged, read Isaiah 40.
When you are lonely or fearful, read Psalm 23.
When you forget your blessings, read Psalm 103.
When you want courage, read Joshua 1:1-9.
When the world seems bigger than God, read Psalm 90.
When you want rest and peace, read Matthew 11:25-30.

(Continued on Page 14)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 3:12-14

OUR ONLY HOPE

Said Col. Charles Lindbergh, "Spiritual truth is more essential to a nation than mortar is to its cities' walls. For when the actions of a people are unguided by spiritual truths, it is only a matter of time before the walls themselves collapse. We must draw strength from the almost forgotten virtues of simplicity, humility, contemplation, prayer. It requires a dedication beyond science, beyond self, but the rewards are great and it is our only hope!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 49:14

BEAUTIFIED

Said J. C. Penney, a merchant prince, "Our lives are made useful and beautiful, not by what we selfishly receive from others and consume, but by what we unselfishly surrender."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember that "every gift, though it be small, is in reality great if given with affection."

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:22

MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN

Years ago some workmen were repairing a medieval castle in Europe. They were horrified when they discovered a human skeleton between two walls. An ancient legend said that a wealthy baron, who lived in the castle centuries before, had forced an enemy to stand still while masons built a wall around him! What horror and anguish must have gripped that helpless victim as he was encased in his tomb alive! Death brought relief to him.

Often the body of a Christian is ravished by disease and riven with pain. Relief comes when he moves out of his "earthly house," and goes to be forever with his Lord in Glory. Then death, pain and sorrow are forever banished.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"And God shall wipe away all tears . . . there shall be no more sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain" (Revelation 21:4). *Hallelujah!*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 24: 23, 24

HUSH FOR GOD IS HERE

On the door of the church where John Wesley preached his first sermon are the following words: "Enter this door as if the floor within were gold, and every wall of jewels of priceless worth were made; as if the choir, in robes of fire, were singing here; nor shout, nor rush, but hush, for God is here!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Whenever and wherever any of God's children meet in the Lord's name, He meets with them: "But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him" (Habakkuk 2:20).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:5

THE MOUTHS OF BABES

When my children were young. I encouraged them to put their trust in God.

One night as Donna was going to bed, I suggested that she pray for the end of the drought that was threatening the livelihood of everyone in the countryside.

"Mother," said Donna, "if I pray for rain, will you bring my dolls inside? I left them in the sandbox, and I don't want them to get wet!"

One night little Robin ran downstairs to kiss some visiting relatives good night. Admonished grandma, "Now be sure to say your prayers, Robin."

"I will," solemnly promised Robin. Then she asked the guests, "Anybody need anything?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Every child born into the world is a new thought of God, an ever-fresh and radiant possibility."

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 20:7

EVIDENCE

After living for years in spiritual darkness, the artist Camillo painted a picture of Christ, called "The Man of Sorrows."

Each time Camillo looked at the painting the sorrowful penetrating eyes of Jesus distressed him. They seemed to say, "Make reparation to those

whom you have wronged. Buy back your salacious paintings and destroy them."

Sometime later, Camillo penitently confessed his sins to Christ and sought to undo the evil he had done.

A sure indication of the genuineness of one's conversion is the willingness to make amends for past wrongs.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold" (Luke 19:8).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Scripture Reading – John 3:16, 17

THE CHRISTIAN

Paul Warren Allen said, "The Christian who considers himself to be crucified with Christ has no ambitions—so nothing to be jealous about; has no reputation—so nothing to fight about; has no possessions—therefore nothing to worry about; has no rights—therefore cannot suffer wrong; is already dead—so no one can kill him!"

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee;

. . . . . .

Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought, and hoped, and known;
Yet how rich is my condition,
God and Heaven are still my own!

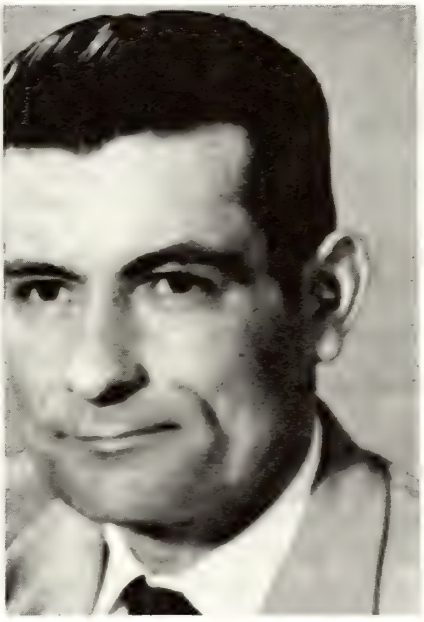
PRAYER THOUGHT

"The Christian faith offers peace in war, comfort in sorrow, strength in weakness, and light in darkness."

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations**, Walter B. Knight.

A TRIBUTE OF THANKS FOR A WORTHY DEACON

by W. S. Burns



Zelbert G. B. Cox went to be with the Lord on July 15, 1980. At the time of his death, Brother Cox was an honorary member of the Board of Deacons in Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church. He had served for many years as an active member of the Board. We knew him as a dedicated Christian and a loyal member of the church.

Zelbert and his wife, Nannie Lee, made their home in Grifton, North Carolina. Zelbert was a supervisor at Cox Trailers in Grifton until sickness forced his retirement from the firm.

Records show that Mr. Cox was first ordained a deacon in the Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Martin County, in 1938. He moved to Pitt County in 1940 and identified with the Elm Grove church. A new Free Will Baptist congregation was formed in Grifton, North Carolina, in May of 1952. They moved their membership to the new church and he served this new church for five years as a deacon.

Returning to Elm Grove in 1958, he served the Elm Grove church as an active member of the Board of Deacons. When sickness caused him to become inactive on the Board, the congregation made him an Honorary Member of the Board for life.

The members and pastor of Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church would like to express their heartfelt sympathy to the Zelbert Cox family and their profound gratitude to God for Zelbert, his life, and work. We remember him with tenderness and love. We are grateful that we had him for so many years as a member and co-worker in the church.

Prepare a Road For the Lord

by Dr. E. M. Lall

". . . Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain" (Isaiah 40:3, 4).

God's chosen people, Israel, were in exile. A depressed and fearful mood darkened their future. The scars of their suffering were still sore. Widespread moral deterioration, together with the loss of nerve, bedeviled the captive Jews. Their ancestral pride lay in dust. A spirit of skepticism prevailed. Their faith wavered. They wondered if the Lord of Israel would pardon and deliver them even now. In darkness they groped helplessly for deliverance.

In the midst of such spiritual distress, the prophet now imparts comfort to the unhoping. He is sure that an ultimate divine order will be restored. He backs his prophetic claim by declaring that "the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." God will bestow His tender care

(Continued on Page 15)

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

NEW EMPLOYEE AT HOME

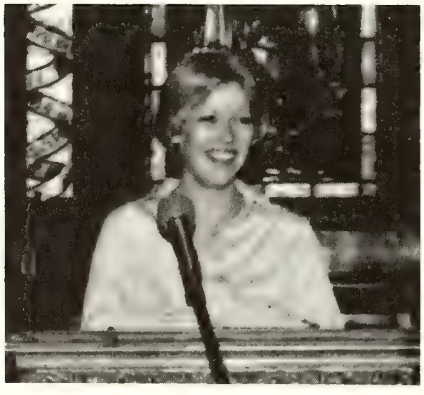


We would like to introduce to you Jeanie Brickhouse, our newest employee at the Children's Home. Jeanie comes to us from the Sound Side church near Columbia in the Albemarle Conference.

Jeanie majored in music at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson. She has been active in her church in all phases of its program.

Jeanie's basic duties at the Children's Home will be to develop and direct a touring choir group to visit our churches on weekends. She will also be teaching music, voice, piano, basic band and reading during the week.

We are very excited about the new opportunities Jeanie will be providing for our children.



Jeanie Brickhouse

The Lord has really been gracious in leading me to come and work for His glory at the Children's Home. I have already received a great experience in working with the children.

My work here at the Children's Home consists of several areas. I'm working with the children in providing special activities such as music and arts and crafts. Several children are taking music lessons in various instruments. We are working toward having a small combo group so the children can play various instruments for enjoyment. I also work in aiding the educators in tutoring children in special areas, such as reading.

One of the most rewarding areas of my work is that I'm working with several children in teaching songs of praise to the Lord. These children love to sing for the Lord and love to share their singing with others.

If you are interested in having some of these children come and sing in your church, please contact the Children's Home so we can make arrangements.

Thank you for your support of the Children's Home and please continue to pray for us so that we may continue to fulfill His will through us.

Jeanie Brickhouse

STATE COTTAGE IS REOPENED

We admitted 8 new children during the month of January: Scotty, 13; Sissy, 12; Becky, 7; Kimberly and Lisa, 5 and 6; Bo, 3; Karen, 4; and Tina, 5. We had to reopen State Cottage to care for them. Guy and Marie Casteen came back to campus to serve as houseparents.

Several of these children are under school age. We would especially like to find foster parents for Bo, 3; Karen, 4; and Tina, 5. We do not want to split these children up if possible. Call us if you are interested in giving these three lovely children a home.

We are grateful for these new children to serve. Along with the opportunity to serve comes responsibility. We encourage our churches to continue their faithful prayers and giving in this time of high inflation.

COMING EVENTS

February—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Christian Education Month

February 23—Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College at 9:30 a.m. in Sawyer Room of Moye Library

February 26—Advisory Committee on Four-year Curriculum for Ministerial Students at 9:30 a.m. in Sawyer Room of Moye Library

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

NEW REST HOME PLANNED!



The Board of Directors of the 'ree Will Baptist Retirement Iomes met on February 3, 981, on the Retirement Homes nd Children's Home campus t Middlesex. A motion was ıade to begin development of a 2-bed rest home program tilizing one of the existing uildings on the Children's Iome campus.

The Board set a goal of 25,000, approximately one-half ıe cost of renovation and quipping of the building, to be aised before construction egins. The Board would like to hallenge our people to help us aise our projected goal as arly as June 30, 1981.

Plans will be announced 'hich will enable individuals nd groups to sponsor a portion of the reconstruction and equipping of the home.

If every Free Will Baptist gave only $2 per member between now and June we would be able to raise the TOTAL amount needed to begin the new program.

The facility will provide family-style rest home care for 12 persons. There will be rooms equipped for the handicapped. Space will be available for single individuals and couples. Programs and services will be designed with Free Will Baptist people in mind.

The Board would like the home to be open before the end of this year with a grand opening and dedication service planned for January, Retirement Homes Month, 1982.

In Memory of George D. Tetterton

On Friday night, November 7, 1980, our loving Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom saw fit to call George D. Tetterton from this earth to receive his reward at the age of 55.

Funeral services were conducted at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday in the Wilkerson Funeral Chapel by his pastor, the Rev. David Hill and the Rev. Willis Wilson. Burial was in Pinewood Memorial Park.

Mr. Tetterton was a native of Pitt County and a life-long resident of the Sweet Gum Grove Community. He was a member and trustee of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church and a veteran of World War II.

We consider both life and death a mystery but after all, it is not a fact that a man has lived or that a man is dead that counts, but it is rather how he did live and how he did die.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Everdene Johnston Tetterton; two sons, George D. Tetterton Jr. of Bethel and Timothy D. Tetterton of the home; a daughter, Mrs. Janelle T. Smith of Greenville; his mother, Mrs. Margaret C. Tetterton of Greenville; three brothers, Alfred P. Tetterton of Greenville, Orlander B. Tetterton and B. B. Tetterton of Bethel; a sister, Mrs. Dalton Rollins of Bethel, and one grandchild.

His work here on earth is o'er;
His fight is over, the victory is won.
He paid the debt we will all have to pay
When God says, "Come, my blessed one."

Obituary Committee of
Sweet Gum Grove Church

NEWS & NOTES

Farmville Youth Go Skiing



A group from the Senior High Sunday School Class of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, spent January 29-31 skiing in Boone. Members of the group pictured above are, left to right, front row: Janie Sowers, Michelle Medlin, Amy Hobgood, Cheryl Catlette, Keith Beamon, Tim Brady; left to right, second row: Lin Holloman, David Joyner, Jerry Goff, and Earl Hines. (The Rev. Scott Sowers is not pictured.)

Mid-Year Meeting Scheduled

The North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists is planning its Mid-Year Spiritual Life meeting for Friday, February 27, 1981. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. at Beulaville Free Will Baptist Church. The meal will be served at 7, and the program will begin at 8 p.m. Dr. Burkette Raper will speak concerning a minister's spiritual life. Ministers and their wives are encouraged to attend.

In order for the committee to properly prepare for the meeting, it is imperative that they know by February 20 how many ministers (and their wives) plan to attend. Ministers are asked to contact the Rev. Ray Wells, Route 1, Box 67-A, Sims, NC 27880. The cost of the meal is $5 per person. Checks should be made payable to the North Carolina Ministerial Association, and sent to Mr. Wells. (If you are unable to attend because of an emergency, a refund will be given.)

Youth Installation Service Held

The new youth sponsors and officers of Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, were installed during a candlelight service on Sunday evening, January 18. The service opened with the congregation singing, "Where He Leads I'll Follow," after which the Rev. Doug Skinner gave a devotion on the subject, "God Plus One."

Mrs. Virginia Skinner, the youth chairman, installed the new officers after the outgoing youth sponsors were recognized. The new sponsors are: Doug Skinner, AFC sponsor; Tommy Murray and Larry Ford, YFA sponsors. Misses Bonnie Ford and Penny Murray sang, "A Brand New Touch," and dedicated it to the new sponsors.

The new youth officers are: Angela Rowland, AFC president; Wayne Salter, AFC vice-president; Steven Murray, AFC secretary; Sandy Long, AFC treasurer; Lee Smith, YFA president; Penny Murray, YFA vice-president; Sherry Jones, YFA secretary; and Wendy Humphrey, YFA treasurer.

After the president of the local Woman's Auxiliary, Mrs. Letha Paul, offered a prayer of dedication for the new sponsors and officers, the AFC closed the service by singing the chorus, "He's Still Working on Me."

Deacon Ordination Service

Three deacons were ordained at Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, on Sunday morning, February 1. Mrs. Gloria Bennett sang "Before I Found the Lord," after the church congregation and choir rendered several selections dealing with one's commitment to God.

Before Bill Davis, Blaney Rowe, and C. H. Styron were ordained, a devotion on deacon ship was given. There was an altar prayer for the new deacons and their wives, with the laying on of hands.

The Rev. Doug Skinner is pastor of Arapahoe church.

Albemarle District WA Officers to Meet

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary officers will meet on Saturday, February 21, at 2 p.m., for a planning session at the home of Becky Jo Sumner. All officers are encouraged to attend.

Western District Youth To Meet

The Western District Youth Fellowship will meet at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina, at 7:30 p.m., on February 28.

OUR-YEAR CURRICULUM FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Progress Report

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Ministerial Education at Mount Olive College will be held Thursday, February 26, at 9:30 a.m. in the Sawyer Room of Mount Olive College.

The committee was authorized by the College Board of Trustees to provide a channel for representatives of the Free Will Baptist Church to participate in the development of a four-year curriculum for ministerial students. The committee, which held its first meeting in November, will also advise the College on the Paul Palmer Institute and other programs of education for ministers and church workers.

Membership of the committee includes representatives from the following bodies as chosen by their respective group:

Mount Olive College

Dr. Michael R. Pelt, Chairman of the Department of Religion; Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, Vice President-Dean; and Dr. Eugene Sumner, Board of Trustees.

State Convention Executive Committee

The Rev. David C. Hansley, President.

Foreign Mission Board

The Rev. Joseph Ingram, Director.

Home Mission Board

The Rev. Ray Wells.

Conference Boards of Ordination

Albemarle, Marvin Waters; Cape Fear, Leonard B. Woodall Jr.; Central, N. Bruce Barrow Sr.; Eastern, David W. Hansley; Pee Dee, to be designated; Piedmont, to be designated; Western, DeWayne Eakes; and Paul Palmer Conference (Georgia), Donald Coates.

Ex-Officio

The President and members of the department of Religion at Mount Olive College.

Officers

At the organizational meeting in November, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock church in the Western Conference, was elected chairman and Dr. Michael R. Pelt was elected secretary.

The Four-Year Program at Mount Olive College

"The primary reason for making Mount Olive a senior college is to enable us to better serve our sponsoring church," declared President W. Burkette Raper. The area of ministerial education is being given first priority. Mount Olive College is the only educational institution related to the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, and the request for the College to become a four-year institution was made by the Convention in 1977.

The College Board of Trustees has approved a $7.5 million "Bridge to the Future" program with a goal of adding the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. Under this schedule, students who enter in 1982 can be in the first baccalaureate graduating class in 1986.

In addition to a four-year curriculum for ministers, the College is also in the process of establishing advisory committees in other major areas. Mr. W. P. Kemp Jr., president of Kemp Furniture Industries in Goldsboro, will head a committee for the development of programs of study in the Business Department. The College plans to announce the appointment of other committees in the near future.

"We are proceeding with full commitment and in good faith to attain senior college status on schedule," President Raper said. "In the beginning our four-year majors will of necessity be limited, but we will add programs for which there is adequate student demand and for which we have resources and personnel."

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Ahoskie will observe Sunday, February 22, as "Mount Olive College Day." Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of the College, will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 10 a.m. and will be the speaker at the 11 a.m. worship service.

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR NASH COUNTY CHURCHES

An important meeting will be held for Free Will Baptist churches in Nash County on Monday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m., at Free Union church near Bailey. The purpose of this meeting will be to present to Free Will Baptists plans for making Mount Olive College a four-year college. Included in the presentation will be plans for gifts and pledges for College Hall.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss will present plans for a four-year program at this meeting. Each church is encouraged to send as many representatives as possible to the meeting.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 1

RELATIONSHIPS IN THE KINGDOM

Lesson Text: Matthew 19:1-15
Memory Verse: Matthew 19:26

I. INTRODUCTION

A teacher once was discussing marriage customs about the world. "What do we call it when a man has several wives?" she asked.

Several hands went up, and one student replied, "Polygamy."

"Very good," responded the teacher. "And now what do we call it when a man is married to one woman for life?"

After some hesitation, one student answered, "I know! It's called monotony!"

We may chuckle a bit at the student's reply, but many today look upon the Biblical standard for marriage in just about this way. In an age that has come to feel that the world owes it at least one new thrill a day, the Biblical ideal seems terribly oppressive and even inhumane. But the truth is that what our pleasure-bent generation rejects as hopelessly stuffy and old-fashioned is the divine route to building a happy home.

Several weeks have passed between the events recorded in Matthew 18 and the beginning of Matthew 19. Luke and John mention several events that occurred during this period including the feast of Tabernacles (John 7:2-53), the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37), the incidents in the home of Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42), the feast of Dedication (John 10:22-42), and the raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-46). **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In this first lesson of the quarter, we should realize that life is made up of three things: relationship, responsibilities, and rewards. Each of many relationships carries a responsibility, and the rewards that one receives depend upon how he lives up to his responsibilities in the relationships.

B. Several times in the Gospels it is said that Jesus had great compassion for the multitudes. He manifested this compassion by healing them. If we have compassion for the multitudes today, how can we show our love? Certainly we cannot heal all of the sick as did Jesus.

C. Marriage is an institution created by the Lord himself in the Garden of Eden. As proof that it was meant to be a permanent relationship, there was no provision made for divorce until the time of Moses. Then God allowed it, according to Jesus, because of the hardness of their hearts. The marriage relationship was meant to last as long as physical life lasts.

D. In discussing the marriage relationship, Jesus gave one reason for divorce. This one reason is fornication. He did not give another.

E. Jesus, in His attitude toward little children, set an example for us. We should love children and seek to give them every opportunity that they may become the kind of people that God wants them to be. The church today needs more people with the childlike qualities of love, trust, and forgiveness.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Last quarter we began a study of the writings of Matthew, the Evangelist, and beginning with this lesson, nine studies will continue through the last chapter of his book. The five lessons (there are fourteen lessons this quarter) will take up studies in the Book of Hebrews.

B. Today we are entering into Unit IV titled "Affirmations of the Kingdom," and will consider certain relationships of individuals. For instance, in today's lesson we will deal with the questions of marriage, divorce, and the rights of children involved in the relationships of members in the family, all of which are designed to show that each person in the family deserves a recognition of his or her personal dignity in the scheme of family and home life.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Faultfinding—Have you heard the story of a young boy who devised a way to let his dog help him mow the lawn? He hitched him to the lawn mower as if he were a horse. Everytime someone passed, the dog would stop to bark. The boy said to one passerby, "Don't mind the dog. He's just barking so he won't have to work." Perhaps this is the reason so many people engage in faultfinding.

Faithfulness—The story is told of a man who was dreaming that he was watching angels build a magnificent structure in Heaven. One by one the stones were placed in order, but he noticed as they built one stone was left out. He said to the angels, "You have left one stone out. Why?" "That was the stone you were to supply," the angel answered.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.

TARBORO CHURCH PRESENTS LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD TO GLORIA MOSLEY

by Joyce Hathaway



Mrs. Gloria Mosley receives award.

The Life Membership Award is awarded by the Woman's Auxiliary to the member who has scored the highest points during the year. The winner for 1980 has received many points by her faithful attendance to the monthly auxiliary meetings and to her circle. She has served as chairman and secretary in her circle.

In addition to her auxiliary activities, this woman has served faithfully in other areas of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro. She has served on the fellowship committee, as a Sunday school teacher, as Sunday school secretary, as a choir member, and as a member of the Gospelaires.

Her latest area of service has been in her home by becoming a foster mother of two fine little boys.

It is with great pride and appreciation that the Woman's Auxiliary of the First church, Tarboro, presents this Life Membership Award to a member from the Dorcas Circle, Gloria Mosley.

News of Interest . . .

Kentucky's law requiring the posting of the Ten Commandments in the state's public schools was struck down on November 17, 1980, by the Supreme Court. In its four-page ruling, the nation's high court held that the Kentucky law violated the First Amendment's no establishment of religion clause because its purpose was religious, not secular.

While acknowledging that the last six of the Ten Commandments deal with "arguably secular matters," including honoring one's parents, murder, adultery, stealing, false witness and covetousness, the first four commands contain purely religious injunctions, the court declared. The fact that Kentucky law required private funding for the plaques did not save it from violating the Constitution, the high court continued.

In its December issue of **Insight,** the National Association of Evangelicals reported on the latest "end times" rumor:

"We think this wild rumor was generated on a late-night radio talk show, but cannot be sure. Reports are coming to us that Social Security checks were mailed to many recipients with strange instructions. Brace yourself. To cash them, an identification mark was needed on the right hand or forehead. The implications of such a procedure for those who have read the Book of Revelation are obvious. Supposedly the Federal Agency replaced the checks with the embarrassed explanation that 'these were not to be mailed out until 1984.'

"The fact? Social Security denies that any such checks were ever issued . . . ."

According to an article which appeared in the **Sunday Times—Sentinel** (October 26, 1980), the IRS admitted that the mistake had occurred.

North Carolina officials say they plan no immediate changes in the use of state highway materials containing "Motorist's Prayers" which were ruled unconstitutional by an appeals court. Top state officials have strongly disagreed with the appeals court decision, holding that the prayers are just as constitutional as the slogan "In God We Trust" on American money. The state plans to ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review the decision.

The Salvation Army is observing its 100th Birthday Anniversary this year.

Have you renewed your subscription to the Free Will Baptist?

The Power of the Word

(Continued from Page 5)

When you want assurance, read Romans 8.
When looking for joy, read Colossians 3.
When you leave home to travel, read Psalm 121.
When you grow bitter or critical, read 1 Corinthians 13.
When you think of investments, read Mark 10:17-31.
When you need some rules of conduct, read Romans 12.
Why not follow Psalm 119:11? "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

—Your Treasury of Inspiration, Zondervan

We have already touched on some of the following, but let us be more specific for a few moments, and note how the power of the Word is revealed to meet our hearts' needs.

I. In times of distress and trouble

When each of us has personally had an experience of distress and trouble, it is a different matter than when others have troubles. At such times, we really learn something about the power of the Word. It was July 9, 1974, when I was reading Psalm 27 that the following verse (5) spoke to me: "For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock."

II. In times of sorrow and grief

Job 41:22 states: ". . . sorrow is turned into joy before Him." This does happen; have we not experienced this? Do we really believe this, even though it contradicts our own human reasoning?

Jesus recognized and responded to the sorrow in the hearts of His followers. They were troubled and filled with sorrow before and during His time of death. "Let not your hearts be troubled." Why is there sorrow? Did not their sorrow turn to joy on that Resurrection morning?

III. In times of misery.

Misery carries a different connotation from the other terms: In most cases, misery comes about because of our own sins and failures. "Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil . . ." (Romans 2:9).

IV. In times of anxiety

Jesus said in Matthew 6:25: "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" He continues (v. 34), "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

V. In times of sickness (affliction)

A. Physical sickness: "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:17). Consider also the admonition to call for healing.

B. Spiritual sickness: David said in Psalm 41:4, "I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee." This is the real need of the world today.

VI. In times of temptation

Whenever Jesus was tempted, our Saviour quoted Scripture; and Satan could not answer.

VII. In times of death

As ministers, we have seen and felt the results of the Word of God in the face of death. It will do the same for us when that moment comes. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me . . ." (Psalm 23:4).

VIII. In the preaching of the word

Daniel Webster wrote: "Without the Bible man would be in the midst of a sandy desert, surrounded on all sides by a dark and impenetrable prison."

"To know it is to love it.
To love it is to accept it.
To accept it means life eternal."

Of the Bible, Robert G. Lee wrote:

The Bible,
inerrant in statement,
infallible in authority,
immeasurable in influence,
inexhaustible in its adequacy,
personal in application,
regenerative in power,
inspired in totality,
is the miracle Book of diversity in unity,
of harmony in infinite complexity—
the God-breathed book that travels
more highways,
walks more paths,
knocks at more doors,
and speaks to more people
in their mother tongue
than any book in the world
has ever known,
can ever know,
will ever know.

"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

The above sermon was delivered by the Rev. C. H. Overman at Cragmont Assembly during the 1980 Ministers' Conference.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

It would be awfully easy for you and me to say this doesn't happen in our churches; it would be easy to shift the blame to other members of the congregation. But let's examine ourselves—I'm afraid I haven't seen an abundance of concerned well-wishers at church lately; I've not heard anyone complain of being too well loved.

Christian fellowship should be comforting, encouraging, uplifting, strengthening, for it provides a strong base for the kind of personal relationships that make life worthwhile. If parents—or their children—are not accepted at a church, they usually try another church, one that may not hold beliefs that are doctrinally sound. But people are often willing to compromise on their convictions if they can worship where they feel welcome. Many people—even those who have been raised in a church—feel as though they have been pushed aside, and when this happens, they have left the church entirely seeking acceptance. Sometimes they find it (as well as moral disaster) in the world.

Yes, it is our duty to offer more than a smile and a nod to acknowledge someone's presence. We need to move out with the kind of concern and compassion that Christ taught the disciples would be evident in genuine Christian love.

Well, so ends this editorial. Please take my words to heart. I don't know about you, but I think I need to go find the Jones family. (How about it? Would you like to go with me?)

Janie



Christ, He promises deliverance from ourselves, pledges forgiveness of our sins, and assures restoration of our relationship with Himself.

Prepare a Road for the Lord

(Continued from Page 7)

pon them as does a shepherd pon his flock.

Our time is haunted by atural calamities, disintegraion of economic stability, a ense of growing personal inecurity, political chaos, and rightening moral degeneracy. he leadership at all levels, oth in the nation and in the hurch, crumbles as if without oundation. But He has not left s without hope.

The God of history even now noves through the mountains nd valleys of our age. Our espair is not without remedy. he frustration within us which thwarts the attainment f the highest and the noblest ve within us) is challenged on ur behalf by His increasing race. The darkness which lagues us with fears is ulnerable to the light of His countenance. By the power of His Spirit, He cancels what depletes us spiritually.

Which life other than David's portrays more vividly the mountains and valleys, pastures and deserts, hopes and despairs, strengths and weaknesses of our lives? The life of this kind reminds us of many churchmen (which includes me) and churchwomen who have passed through such vicissitudes of life.

But then David is a man whom God enfolded in His forgiving love. He symbolizes the work of the divine restoration which God promises to every contrite heart. David's Yahweh exalted the valleys of his despair. He leveled the mountains of his pride and worldly glory.

In Christ, God built a highway across the desert of our lives. He exalts the valleys which despair us. Through

Mrs. Lugo's Hospital Expenses Are Paid

On several occasions recently, attention has been called to the financial needs of Mrs. Isaias Lugo, the wife of one of our Mexican pastors. She has been quite ill and her hospital bill ran in excess of $6,000. Many of you have responded so faithfully that the bill has been paid; and it is requested that you not send any more money for this cause.

Mrs. Lugo is at home and improving rather well; she suffered some type of cancer. The family extends their gratitude to you.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

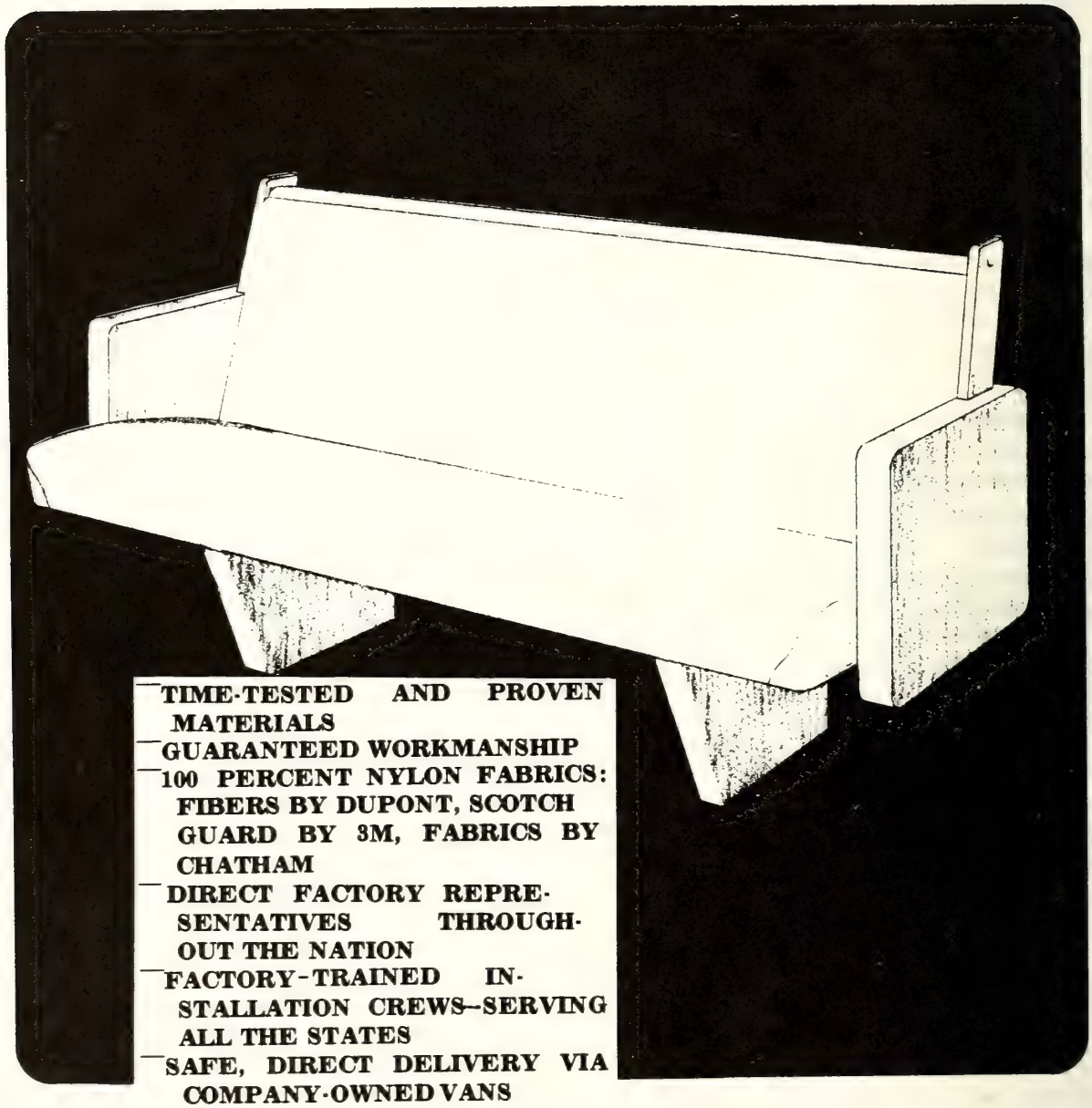
The Rev. Jerry Campbell has a new address. It is Route 4, Box 270, Advance, North Carolina 27006; phone, 998-5766. His old address was Box 455, Pikeville, North Carolina 27863.

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DeWayne Eakes

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CHURCH OF THE MONTH

The Making of a Leader

Great leaders are almost always "great simplifiers." They seem to possess the innate ability to cut through arguments, debates, and existing doubts to offer a solution, one everyone can remember and understand. They often have to make demands and challenge the status quo to "shape things up."

Many believe that the rise or fall of a leader is merely a matter of the timing of his emergence into the limelight. But one thing is certain: Whenever an individual is classified as a leader, his is a simple and eloquent message. Sir Winston Churchill warned the British that they needed to expect "blood, toil, tears and sweat"; FDR won the confidence of Americans by assuring them that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Lenin promised the Russian people peace, land, and bread. War weary, they chose his doctrines over existing conditions. The straightforward and potent messages these men delivered cut to the heart of matters and won them favor.

We also have an image of the way our leaders are to look. They may not be tall, but they must be bigger than life, or at least bigger than all of life's problems. Why, we all remember LBJ's nose and ear lobes, Ike's broad grin, Kennedy's rocker, Lincoln's stovepipe hat! Their unforgettable features have been instantly and permanently fixed in our minds.

It also helps if our leaders can do something most of us can't. (FDR did; he overcame polio.) They need to be something most of us aren't. We really want our leaders to be like us, only better.

If we know what we are looking for in a leader, why is it so hard to find someone who can command authority, someone of influence? Maybe the adage "people can only be led where they want to go" has some truth in it. Whatever the case, the position of leadership is a difficult one, for a leader's task "is to focus a people's energies and desires, to define them in simple terms, to inspire, to make what people want seem attainable, important, within their grasp"; "he has to ride the waves, move with the tides, understand the deepest yearnings of his people." The greatest of all leaders reflects back to us our sense of purpose; he makes many of our dreams and hopes become reality; he is able to transform our needs and fears.

A man who walked by the Sea of Galilee nearly two thousand years ago understood the principles of leadership and simplicity well. Everything **in** His life was simple—His clothing, His food, His stories, His language, His words, (This is not to imply that everything about His life was simple.) He personifies the epitome of leadership, and His followers are strong by virtue of the fact He is strong.

His message is still studied today. Even though complicated by man, the orders He gave, the message He proclaimed, remains clear and positive; it is concise and easy to understand. Why, I can almost hear Him say, "Follow me." Can't you?

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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CHURCH OF THE MONTH

HISTORY OF LITTLE ROCK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

THE name "Little Rock" was derived from baptismal site used by the urch and other area churches il 1956 when a baptismal l was installed at Little ck. On Davis' Creek about -half mile from the church re is a large outcropping of nite rock on one side of the ek with a smaller rock proding from the ground on the er side. A natural basin was med between the two which earlier years made an ideal ce for baptisms. The canate would step down from little rock into the water, nce the name for the church, ttle Rock."

Early in 1871, a group of peosaw the need of a church to ve their community. Being ive Christians, these people an working toward their l. Shortly thereafter, their l was realized. On the fifnth day of May, third Sun, 1871, Elder Daniel Davis, isted by Elder Joseph Sauls deacon Jesse Rose of Union ve church, Wayne County, t with these Christians at Elarice (Elias) Barnes oolhouse, organized a Free l Baptist Church, and ned it Little Rock. This all school was located ross the creek" (Davis ek) on the corner of the Cordy Lucas and Charles Barnes farms. Later, the church's meetings were moved to its present location in a school which was set in a small group of pines. The previous location then became known as "the Ball Park."

In 1884, a new school was constructed where Lucama Union School is now located. At Little Rock, a building committee was elected to plan a new church building. The members of the building committee were: Amos Atkinson, Bennett Campbell, and James Newsome.

"Uncle Larry" Lucas gave the land to the church trustees. The originally used school building, no longer necessary, was moved near the railroad adjoining the new Masonic Lodge. The construction was completed and the new church was ready for its "yearly meeting" in August, 1887. The six charter members present at this first meeting were: Sally Newsome, Milley Campbell, Eliza Woodard, Elizabeth Lucas, Mary Lucas Atkinson, and Aquilla Moore.

During the first charter year, these members were added to the church: Molly Ferrell, Joanna Godwin, Larry Lucas, Jane Godwin, Simon Newsome, William Woodard, Nancy Godwin, and Bennett Campbell.

Elder Daniel Davis served as pastor for twenty-two years until 1893 and then again in 1897. He had organized several churches and rode on horseback to serve as pastor to each of them. At Little Rock, he had one or sometimes two assistant preachers who would hold services when he could not be present.

Immediately after its organization, the church began to send representatives to all general meetings of the denomination, the Union Conference, and Ministers' Meeting, the General Conference, the Western Union Meeting, and the Western Conference.

A tradition at Little Rock has always been the support of all the denominational enterprises without fail. The tradition continues to this day, as well as carrying on a strong local program and responding to community needs.

At one yearly meeting, the pastor was paid $15; another year, $19.70. In 1878, the Conference was having a hymnbook published and $4.50 was sent to help with expenses. During another year, the offering

(Turn the Page)

for the expenses of the church was $3.55.

In 1901, a second building committee was elected to raise money for a new church and the auditorium now used was constructed. This debt was paid prior to the yearly meeting in 1907. Pews for this building were given by Polly Newsome.

Little Rock's congregation has helped in the organization of other area churches. On December 17, 1921, a motion was made to assist in the establishment of a church at Daniels Chapel and thirty-three members transferred to become members of this new church. Also, in 1921, a motion was accepted to help the Union Meeting and Western Conference establish a church in Wilson. More than twenty-five members have transferred to this church.

Little Rock furthered its building program in March 1927, by selecting another building committee to add Sunday school rooms and a new choir loft to the auditorium. The cost was $2,900. Many materials for the Sunday school rooms were donated. Logs were given and the men of the church cut and hauled them to a sawmill owned by two of the members. As the men worked to make additions to the house of God, the women helped by cooking and carrying food to them. With the completion of these rooms, Little Rock had, according to all available records, the first Sunday school rooms added to any Free Will Baptist Church in North Carolina. Earlier, a large bay window choir loft, new choir chairs, and an organ had been added.

With a growing church, further improvements were needed. In 1938, an improvement committee was elected, and $1,500 was received from the estate of J. H. Lucas. This gift was used to build a new roof, to paint the church inside and outside, to lay new carpets, to install new windows, to finish the floors, and to remove the outside shutters. Still another improvement was made in 1949 when coal stoves were replaced by a gas heating system at a cost of $939.

Little Rock church advanced even more in 1951 when it was given a lot by the Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Evans on which a parsonage was built at a cost of $15,000. It was completed in September of the same year and dedicated in September, 1956, at an outdoor service on its lawn.

Since 1927, Little Rock church had been using the added Sunday school rooms. By 1956, the church needed more rooms. A committee made plans for these additional rooms which could also be used as fellowship rooms, to cost $10,000. At the same time, plans were adopted for the renovation of the auditorium and the installation of a baptistry costing $900. Several committees, along with the trustees, worked toward Homecoming, September, 1958, as the time for having these important changes completed.

This goal was met, for the new building at $10,000 was finished on time. All new furniture replaced the old; the new furniture including the pews and pulpit furniture was given in memory and honor of loved ones by their families. A new piano was presented. A beautiful painting in the baptistry, painted by Dorothy Rackley, of Wilson, North Carolina, came from the Old Five Points Free Will Baptist Church. Other gifts consisted of a brass altar set given by the family of W. R. and Nepple Davis, a brass communion set given in memory of Bessie Lucas Brown, and carpet by the Woman's Auxiliary. Also given were offering plates for the altar and handrails for the front steps at a total cost of $150. All these additions made a beautiful building in which worship.

Little Rock church contin to grow and change. Even m changes came, at differ times, to make the buildi more comfortable. Insulat was added to the parsonage a educational building. A n heating plant costing $850 v also installed in the parsona A new heating and air cor tioning plant for the church v carried out in two separate p jects over a period of two ye with the air conditioni ($2,000) being installed af the cost of $3,250 for the heat plant had been paid. Air cor tioning for the new educatio building was given by Brax Jones and greatly added to comfort of the children.

In 1965, another building p ject was planned for a $2, vestibule to be added for beauty and comfort of church. The Layman's Lea sponsored additions of sto windows for the auditoriu folding tables for the fellows room, and a heater for the b tistry. Choir robes were sp sored by the Woman's A iliary.

The Youth Auxiliary sp sored the installation of beautiful new organ January, 1970. Also in 19 stained-glass windows w pledged by individuals memorials, and installed. 1970, a building fund drive the installation of alumin siding on the entire church v begun. Work was completed March of 1970 at a cost of $5,8

Physical improvements h been numerous during the p six years. Our people h given in a very commenda way as God has so abundan blessed our labors in faith.

In September 1971 new ro were installed on the chur educational building, and p sonage at a cost of $2,480. March of 1972 the church vo to build a double carport an utility room at the parsona This project was completed a

cost of $6,182.68. In October of 1973 the church voted to buy an activity bus for the church at a cost of $900. Plans for remodeling the sanctuary were presented and adopted by the church in October 1973. New pews were placed in the choir loft, new carpeting was installed throughout the sanctuary, new wainscoting and chair rail and lighting (indirect) were installed. (A public address system was installed prior to the sanctuary remodeling.) The ceiling was insulated for comfort and economy and in August 1973, the Redding family placed an Art Glass window behind the baptistry in memory of Mrs. Mamie Redding. Roy Godwin fiberglassed the baptistry as a gift to the church and was responsible for carpet being donated to cover the old Sunday school classrooms and hallway. Also included in the remodeling was carpet for the nursery, vinyl floor covering for the educational building and wainscoting for half of the educational building. This work of remodeling was completed at a cost of $10,599.36.

In October 1976 the church voted to construct a fellowship building to help meet the fellowship needs of our congregation. Provisions for two additional Sunday school rooms are included for the future needs of the church. The anticipated cost is $45,000.

In September 1977, a long-standing prayer need of Little Rock church was realized! Arrangements were made for the church to purchase approximately one-half acre of land adjacent to the present property. The present property had been donated to the church by "Uncle Larry Lucas." The additional property was purchased from Ethel Lucas Johnson, his daughter. In a special called business meeting, the church authorized the Trustees to survey the land, draw up the property deed and complete the purchase. This is truly a cause for much thanksgiving for the people of Little Rock church. It came about, we firmly believe, as God's answer to much prayer for many years from many people.

During this time period some significant administrative changes have been made which already have proven their worth. In September 1972 the Deacon Board was increased to 7 members. In December 1972, the church voted to appoint a committee to draw up a church constitution and bylaws. This was adopted by the church September 23, 1973, and has proven a great asset to the administrative and spiritual life of the church. In June of 1973 the Trustee Board was increased to 7 members. In July 1975 the church combined its church school and church treasuries and administrative processes. In March of 1976 the church voted to form a Christian Board of Education. This was adopted by the church and the Constitution and ByLaws were amended making the members of the Christian Board of Education members of the General Board of the church. Administratively and spiritually this has also proven to be a great asset to the life of the church.

In 1979 Little Rock church expanded its youth ministry by accepting sponsorship of a Cub Scout Troop and a Brownie Scout Troop in addition to the already existing Cherubs, AFC, and YFA programs. The scouting program has proven to be very successful.

In September 1980, the remaining debt on Heritage Hall (fellowship building) was retired. It is significant to note that during a three-year period in which the church spent $45,000 on a new building the giving to our denominational enterprises increased each year. The church has also participated in raising money to feed the poor, aiding local needy families in various ways and annually supporting the work of the Gideon's International.

Little Rock church has been wonderfully blest during its 109 years. It takes seriously its mission work as a church. Our prayer is that Little Rock church will continue faithful in ministry. As with Abraham, God promises to bless His people and He expects His people to be a blessing to all people!

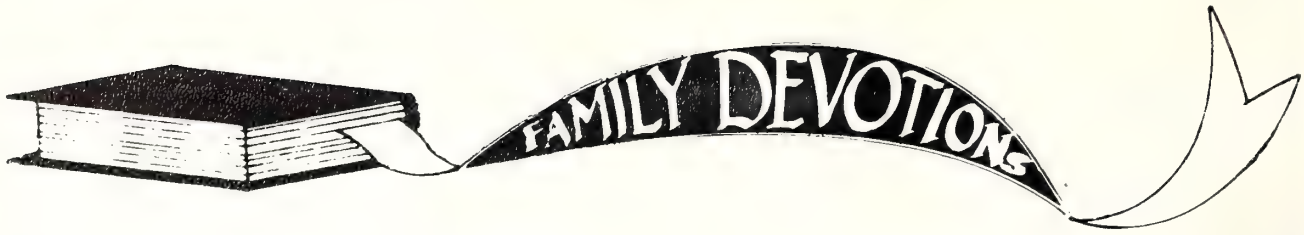
Following is a list of the pastors of Little Rock church:

Daniel Davis	1871-1893
P. T. Lucas	1893-1897
Daniel Davis	1897
J. H. Worley	1897-1899
C. R. Pierce	1899-1901
L. T. Phillips	1901-1907
G. W. Davis	1907-1908
R. Strickland	1908-1909
G. W. Ferrell	1909-1912
J. R. McCaskey	1912-1914
R. F. Pittman	1914-1918
S. H. Styron	1918-1922
R. F. Pittman	1922-1923
S. H. Styron	1923-1927
C. M. Johnson	1927-1929
S. H. Styron	1929-1936
R. N. Hinnant	1936-1939
M. E. Tyson	1939-1942
M. L. Johnson	1942-1951
N. B. Barrow	1951-1959
L. B. Woodall	1959-1961
F. R. Harrison	1961-1969
D. W. Eakes	1969-

Little Rock church provided a Christian atmosphere as it grew and developed. Its influence has helped to convert many to the ways of Christianity. Perhaps its influence helped the following men in their decisions to become ministers of the gospel. Ministers ordained from Little Rock: J. A. Evans, P. T. Lucas (Uncle Pat), E. T. Lucas (Uncle Doc), E. S. "Buddy" Sasser.

Local men ordained in other churches: W. A. Hales, Calvin Capps, Ransom T. Lucas.

Men who were at one time members of Little Rock and later ordained: Raymond Sasser, Harold Owens.



SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Scripture Reading—Philippians 4:11

TWO TENTS

All the world lives in two *tents—content* and *discontent.*

How blessed are those who can say with the Apostle Paul, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (Philippians 4:11b).

How fearful and miserable are those who lament as did discontented and fear-craven Israel of old: "In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at the even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear" (Deuteronomy 28:67).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: Every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:12, 13).

MONDAY, MARCH 2

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1:29-31

SEEING IS BELIEVING

How can you look into the heart of a flower without seeing the face of its Creator and yours? How can you pause at the song of a bird without hearing the strains of celestial choirs? How can you breathe the fragrance of spring without inhaling the essence of life itself? How can you feel the joy and sorrow of living without sharing your joys and shedding your sorrows? If, as they say, you are what you see and hear and smell and feel, then you can't help but believe in an Infinite Being bestowing blessings on you.

Belief in God is the beginning of all beliefs. It leads you into other beliefs, like belief in your country, belief in the goodness of people, belief in the progress of your community, and belief in your own strength of character. Belief in all things good is practical and profitable. It brings you riches beyond belief, treasure on earth and in Heaven. It raises your sights from the finite to infinity.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Yours can be a rich full life. Why don't you take time to realize God's presence?

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:6

A TRAPDOOR INTO NOTHINGNESS

A lawyer, who was an agnostic and a man of wealth, supervised the building of his own mausoleum before his death. On the beautiful marble structure the following lines were carved at his direction: "Is there beyond this silent night an endless day? Is death a door that leads to light? We cannot say. The tongueless secret is locked in fate. We do not know. We hope and wait."

Long ago Job asked, "If a man die, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14). How fear-allaying is his answer to this ancient question: "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand in the latter day upon the earth . . . In my flesh shall I see God" (19:25, 26b).

If Christ had not triumphed over the tomb, death would be a trapdoor into nothingness.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Because He lives, God's children will live eternally with Him!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 4:8

THE WORLD'S COSTLIEST BRIDGE

How interesting are some of the famous bridges!

At a cost of $7 million, London Bridge was disassembled, stone by stone, into 10,246 numbered pieces, moved from its original site on the Thames and transported to Lake Havasu City, Arizona, where it was reassembled.

The Golden Gate Bridge, spanning the entrance of San Francisco Bay, was built at a cost of $35 million. It has a span of 4,200 feet between its main towers.

The San Francisco-Oakland Bay or Transway Bridge is the world's longest. With its approaches it is eight and one-fourth miles long. It cost $77,200,000.

The George Washington Memorial Bridge is the third greatest suspension bridge. It spans the Hudson River between New York City and Fort Lee, N. J. It was opened in 1931 and cost $60,000,000.

The world's costliest bridge was not composed of steel and cement, but of the flesh and blood of the Saviour. In His atoning death, Jesus Christ spanned the great gulf between sinful mankind and God's mercy and forgiveness!

O the love that drew salvation's plan!
O the grace that brought it down to man!
O the mighty gulf that God did span
At Calvary!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible says, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Scripture Reading—John 11:25

WHERE CHRIST IS

One has said, "You can't keep Jesus in a church. He is there, to be sure, but you can't keep Him there. Enshrine Him, ritualize Him, as you may, He will not stay only in the church. No! He walks the meanest avenues of life and imparts His touch of beauty. Wherever there is sorrow, suffering, sin and shame, there you will find Him. The only way to keep Him is to share Him."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us strive to share Christ with those around us. Remember, "love was not put in your heart to stay; love's not love until you give it away."

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Scripture Reading—John 13:23

LEANING CHRISTIANS

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is the bell tower of the Cathedral of Pisa in Italy. It is shaped like a cylinder, is made of white marble and has eight arcades one over the other. There is a spiral staircase which leads to the top of the structure.

Shortly after its completion, it was observed that the tower was not truly vertical and was beginning to lean. The ground below it was beginning to sink!

Through the centuries, the tower has steadily continued to lean. Today its deviation from the vertical is more than 14 feet. Many efforts have been made to arrest its leaning, but to no avail. Experts say that now it is not possible to restore the tower to accurate perpendicularity.

Many Christians today are like the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Why do they lean from spiritual rectitude?

With Demas, it was love of the world: "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world" (2 Timothy 4:10a).

With the Laodicean Christians, it was spiritual pride and self-praise: ("We are) rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing" (Revelation 3:17).

In prayer, a minister once pled, "O Lord, prop up on the leaning side!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember the promise recorded in Revelation 3:21; "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Scripture Reading—John 11:26

A FRACTION OF RUBBER

When Britain's Princess Anne visited the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, she was intrigued by the space suits of the astronauts. She asked astronaut Neil Armstrong: "Is there any danger of a rip?"

He replied, "The difference between eternity and life is about one-hundredth of an inch of rubber!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

As David fled from wrathful Saul, he exclaimed, "Truly as the Lord liveth . . . there is but a step between me and death" (1 Samuel 20:3).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

YOUTH NEWS

The 1981 State Youth Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be held Saturday, April 25, at Lenoir Community College in Kinston. Registration will begin at 9:15, with the Convention convening at 9:30 a.m.

Becky Jo Sumner has been named State Youth Chairman by the Woman's Auxiliary Executive Committee. A member of Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ahoskie, Becky Jo works with the AFC, Cherubs, and Junior High groups in her church. She teaches fourth grade math in the public school system. Her address is Route 4, Box 410, Ahoskie, NC 27910.

The directors for the 1981 Youth Frontier Conference weeks at Cragmont Assembly have been named. Scott and Janie Sowers will direct YFA week (June 29—July 4); Doug and Virginia Skinner will direct AFC week (July 6-11). All registration money should be sent to the directors of the respective weeks. **Registration fees for YFA week should be forwarded to Scott and Janie Sowers, Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmville, NC 27828; for AFC week, Doug and Virginia Skinner, Box 117, Arapahoe, NC 28510.**

LET US RISE UP AND BUILD

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

FOR years we have talked about the need to make Mount Olive a four-year college, and from the beginning we have recognized that adequate facilities are among the essentials for us to attain this goal. The major building between us and a four-year institution is "College Hall," a facility that will provide a physical education-athletic complex for the College.

The building has also been designed to serve as a Convention Center for the Free Will Baptist Church when such an accommodation is needed.

The College Board of Trustees has given priority to this project and architectural plans are complete. Building materials are available and contractors want work. It will probably cost less to construct the building now than it will at any time in the future.

The estimated cost of the project is $2.5 million, but God has already placed many times this amount of money in the hands of His people, and He has promised to supply all of our needs according to His riches! What are we waiting for?

Why does the College not have enough funds for this building? Because we have not asked enough people for enough money in the right way. Christian people are willing to give to a good cause when they have a vision of what is needed and the good it will do.

I have been out among our people: in their churches, in their homes, and in their places of business. I went to one church for a College Day service and a few days later the pastor went with me to make calls in his community. Gifts and pledges have already totaled $18,000, and we have not called upon half the families we had on our list. I am scheduled to go back.

I went to another church for a fellowship dinner at which I was invited to explain the educational ministry of the College. A committee for College Hall was appointed, and within one week gifts and pledges to College Hall had exceeded $16,000.

Another church with a membership of less than one hundred and that is without a pastor invited me for a service. A chairman was appointed and before my next visit a month later, she had mailed gifts and pledges totaling $6,000—and said that she needed more pledge cards!

A pastor of another small church where I had not been in fifteen years invited me for a College Day service, and during the following week he and I spent one-half day making calls. Gifts and pledges have already reached $5,000.

Other churches have organized their own campaigns, like Spring Hill church in Wayne County where commitments to College Hall have exceeded $21,000—and this amount from a church with a membership of 130 and a building program of its own! Hopewell church in Johnston County has a unique College Hall program built around a monthly fellowship dinner. Gifts and pledges exceed $13,000.

It Will Work in Your Church

The cause of Mount Olive College is worthy, and God is entrusting to our people the resources needed to advance His work. "We have not because we ask not."

If you would like a College Day service in your church or if you would like the proposed four-year program of Mount Olive College presented at a prayer service or to the officials of your church, please write or call (919) 658-2502, and Mrs. Jean Ackiss, my secretary, will be happy to schedule an appointment for a representative from the College.

The need is great; the resources are available, and we need not wait. Now is the time for us to "rise up and build."

COMING EVENTS

February—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Christian Education Month

February 26—Advisory Committee on Four-year Curriculum for Ministerial Students at 9:30 a.m. in Sawyer Room of Moye Library

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 7—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.; the program will conclude at 12:30 p.m., followed by lunch at the Winterville Community Building.

March 14—Central District Youth Fellowship will meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.; the program will begin at 10 a.m.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

COLLEGE HALL FUND GROWS



The campaign to raise $2.5 million for a physical education and convention center at Mount Olive College is gaining momentum. Burlington Industries of Greensboro, which has plants located throughout the United States, has announced a $15,000 grant to the College Hall building program. Shown making the presentation are (left to right): W. Burkette Raper, College president; Drew Moore, manager of the Burlington plant in Mount Olive; Nancy C. Sampell, director of Development; Tom Humphrey of the Smithfield plant; and Bill Mooring of the Goldsboro plant.

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR LENOIR COUNTY CHURCHES

An important meeting will be held for Free Will Baptist churches in Lenoir County on Tuesday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m., at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston. The purpose of this meeting will be to present to Free Will Baptists plans for making Mount Olive College a four-year college. Included in the presentation will be plans for gifts and pledges for College Hall.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss will present plans for the four-year program at this meeting. Each church is encouraged to send as many representatives as possible to the meeting.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be the guest speaker at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Raleigh, on Sunday, March 1, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m., he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. The pastor is the Rev. J. B. Caton.

IN MEMORY OF MR. JOHN E. WHICHARD

On Thursday, December 4, 1980, the Lord saw fit to call from us the soul of one of the most devoted friends and Christians of our church and community, Mr. John E. Whichard, 84 years of age. He served his church as deacon and trustee for many years. Truly his life was a shining example for his family, friends and neighbors.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Wilkerson Funeral Home by the Rev. Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, and his pastor, the Rev. David Hill. Burial followed in Greenwood Cemetery.

Mr. Whichard, a lifetime resident of Pitt County, had lived in the Sweet Gum Grove Community before moving to Greenville about 23 years ago. He was a member of Bethel Masonic Lodge, veteran of World War I, and had been a continuous member of American Legion Post No. 39 for 62 years.

He contributed much to his church and denomination as long as he was able. His life was long and useful and he will be greatly missed, but we are sure for the devoted Christian life he lived God had something far better in store for him.

Surviving are a son, Eric Whichard of the Stokes Community, four grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead,—he is just away!
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,
He has wandered into an unknown land.

Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There, as the love of Here
Think of him still as the same, I say:
He is not dead—he is just away.

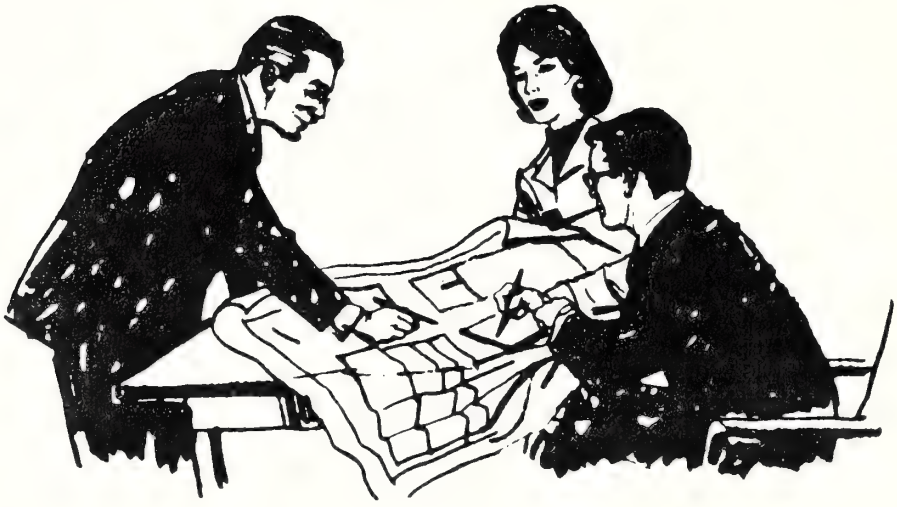
—Obituary Committee of
Sweet Gum Grove
Free Will Baptist Church

News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

REST HOME PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETS



The Rest Home Planning Committee of the Retirement Homes met on February 11, 1981, to discuss plans to acquaint our people with the new Rest Home project. Brochures are being printed to explain the new program.

Two things will be needed from our people. First, we would like those persons who need more than an apartment—their meals prepared and some assistance with their daily routine—to contact us right away so the application process can begin.

Our second need is to raise the capital to renovate and equip the building. State Cottage, located on the south end of campus, is the building being considered. Doorways must be widened, a handicap bath, handrails, emergency lighting, ramps, rails and a number of other changes will be necessary. The cost of this construction and the equipment needed for the building is expected to be about 45-50 thousand dollars. **Two dollars from each Free Will Baptist** would enable "State Cottage for the Retired" to open debt free.

Groups and individuals could sponsor a room or a portion of a room. The approximate cost of a room will be about $3,750 (total cost divided by 12). Plaques will be placed in sponsored rooms.

Gifts of $100 or more will be recorded on a plaque in the entrance of the building.

Our need for State Cottage for the Retired is immediate. We urge our people to respond soon so preparations can begin.

Construction will begin as soon as $25,000 of the needed $45,000 is raised. We look forward to hearing from you and your church soon!

CHILDREN'S HOME NEWS

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

CHILDREN'S HOME RECEIVES GRANT

Trustees of the Duke Endowment made annual operating grants to 227 hospitals and children's homes in North Carolina and South Carolina during its monthly meeting in Charlotte on January 28, 1981.

These grants totaling $2,780,655 have been distributed within the past week to 18 hospitals and 41 child-caring institutions in the two states, according to Ashley H. Gale Jr. director of the hospital and child care divisions of the Duke Endowment.

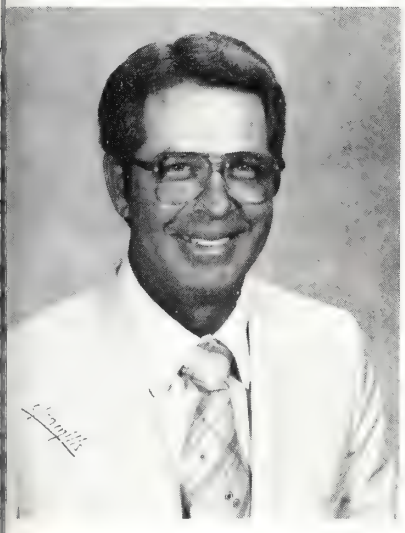
Gale said that trustees of the Endowment, in making their annual appropriations for operating expenses, were following the wishes of the Endowment's founder, James B. Duke, who established a regular pattern of annual support for hospitals and orphanages (now children's homes) during his lifetime.

The Duke Endowment was established in 1924 by James Buchanan Duke. Its philanthropy extends to four major areas—higher education, health care, child care, and religion. Educational beneficiaries are Duke, Furman and Johnson C. Smith Universities and Davidson College. In health care, the Endowment assists non-profit hospitals in the Carolinas with operating expenses, expanding services, improving patient care, and in providing capital funds for building physical plants, plant additions, and equipment. Child-caring institutions in North Carolina and South Carolina are given assistance

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS & NOTES

lm Grove Church nnounces Revival



The Rev. Norman Ard

Revival services will be held arch 2 through March 6, at lm Grove Free Will Baptist hurch, Route 3, Ayden. Ser- ces will begin at 7:30 p.m. he evangelist is the Rev. Nor- an Ard. There will be special nging each night. The Rev. . S. Burns is pastor of the urch. Everyone is invited to tend.

anquet Held at ohnston Union Church

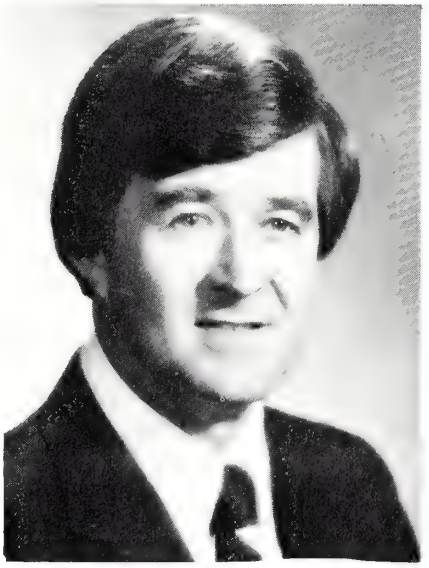
The YFA of Johnston Union ree Will Baptist Church, oute 1, Clayton, sponsored a vered dish Valentine's ban- uet in the church fellowship all on Friday evening, ebruary 13. Following the eal, the youth and several dults put on a Hee Haw skit. Those participating in the rogram were Mike and Amy ott, Frances and Bob illips, Randy and Nelda yse, Johnnie, Ray, and Jay tt, Dennis, Denise, and Cur- Powell, Sharon and Karen wer, J. B. Phillips, Billy ncaster, Kevin Austin, James Montgomery, Linda Baker, Crystal Ferrell, Lori Wood, Roger Matthews, and Timmy Creech. The program was directed by Pat Austin and Jean Stott, YFA directors, and Tammie Barnes.

Everyone enjoyed a night of good fellowship.

Revival Services to Be Held At Sandy Plain Church

Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, near Beulaville, will have its revival, March 2 through March 7. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. The prayer room will be open at 7 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. Wayne King is the visiting evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee, and the congregation wish to invite everyone to attend these services.

St. Mary's Grove Church To Have Revival



The Rev. Jack Mayo

Revival services will be held at St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield, North Carolina, March 2 through March 6. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Jack Mayo will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be presented each night. The pastor, the Rev. Rod Jones, and the congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Free Union Church to Host Layman's League Fellowship

The Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will have its quarterly meeting on Monday, March 2, at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church near Walstonburg, North Carolina, in Greene County, at 8 p.m.

This will be ladies' night, so the wives are asked to come. The goal for the evening is 125 men plus the wives. There will be a special speaker for the meeting.

"Smokey" Eggers Scheduled to Speak

All Free Will Baptist ministers and laymen interested in the Scouting Program are invited to hear Mr. H. M. "Smokey" Eggers, a representative of the Baptist Association of Scouting, speak Thursday, February 26, at the Holiday Inn in Kinston. The film, "Priceless Treasures," will be shown during the evening. This is the first showing of the film to Free Will Baptist pastors and leaders. The meeting will begin with a Dutch treat dinner at 6:30 p.m.

If interested in attending, contact Scott Sowers at 753-2185 by noon, Thursday, February 26.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Clyde W. Cox announces his change of address from P. O. Box 549, Wilson, NC 27893 to P. O. Box 240, Micro, NC 27555.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 8

GOD'S GENEROSITY

Lesson Text: Matthew 19:1-15
Memory Verse: Matthew 19:26

I. INTRODUCTION

"Nice guys finish last!" once growled major league manager Leo Durocher, who made a career of seeing to it that no one ever mistook him for a nice guy. His words seem a bit blunt, but the truth is that most of the world operates on this principle. "We're number two" may be a clever advertising slogan, but the world doesn't offer many rewards to the "also rans."

The world rewards success, and often quite handsomely, regardless of how that success is gained. For this reason, Jesus' teaching that the last shall be first and the first last goes against the grain of almost everything our modern culture teaches us. Yet there are many, God's true saints, whose lives testify that this paradoxical statement is true even in this life, not to mention the life to come.

Nice guys finish last! Yes, thank goodness, for they shall be first.

The chapter divisions in our Bible do not always come at the most logical places, and such is the case with today's lesson text. It appropriately belongs with the material found in 19:16-30, for it gives a further explanation of Jesus' teaching that the first shall be last and the last first. Today's lesson took place in Perea, east of the Jordan River, the place that was the setting for last week's lesson. **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Our lesson today involves a parable of the Kingdom of Heaven. Usually the Kingdom of Heaven refers to the great kingdom of visible professors such as we have in the church; whereas, the Kingdom of God is invisible and is the kingdom of true possessors.

B. Observe that in each case of laborers, the word of the householder is involved. God's Word is always involved in the matter of Christian service. The task of serving is ours; the rewards belong to the Lord.

C. The attitude of the workers in the parable reflects the attitude of the church people too often. We are jealous of one another, and prone to expect our rewards to be based upon what others receive.

D. We should recognize that the Lord is sovereign. This means that He has the power and the right to do with us what He wills. We do not have the right to dictate to the Lord what He does. Instead, we should trust His wisdom.

E. The working people in the parable felt they had a grievance. They did not take it to a committee, or a union; but directly to the employer.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Generosity is defined as "willingness to give or share." A generous person is not only willing to give or share but does what he is willing to do; he puts his willingness into action.

B. Christian generosit should be based on the concep of God's generosity; He gav all, His only begotten Son, tha we might have all in Him. Go gave not just to His friends bu also to those who hated Him and even those who took the lif of His Son. While we can neve measure up to the perfection o divine generosity, we are ex pected to do our best to show generous spirit in the pattern o God himself.

C. Our lesson opens with parable of the kingdom de signed to show that service fo the Lord—the willing giving o ourselves to His cause—will b rewarded according to oppor tunities embraced, not simpl for the quantity of work we do

—The Advanced Quarterl (F.W.B.

IV. ILLUSTRATING THI LESSON

Why Should I Work?—Ther is the story of a lad who had jus been baptized. Looking wit boyish frankness into the fac of the minister, he asked "What do I do now? What i next?" This boy's question i one every Christian should ask and every church should b prepared to answer. **—The Bi ble Teacher (F.W.B.)**

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Beverly Ballard an nounces that as of March, h will be available for services o second and fourth Sunday either as a part-time pastor or supply minister. He states tha he also has some openings thi fall for revival meetings. H may be contacted at 749 Fai mont Village, Ayden, Nort Carolina 28513; phone, 746-604

The Rev. George Greene an nounces that he is available fo full-time pastoral work. An church desiring his service may contact him at P. O. Bo 475, Elm City, North Carolin 27822; phone, 236-4079.

"Can a Man Live Right in An Evil Day?"

by Graham Faucette

"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD" (Genesis 6:8). The world in Noah's day was a sinful, corrupt, violent mess. The wickedness of men was great and every single thought of the human mind was evil continually.

But wait, the world was not totally evil. There was one man, just one man of all the men on earth, that still walked straight before God. His name was Noah.

If you will read the mighty sixth chapter of Genesis, and let it speak to your heart, you will find that there was grace in that evil day and Noah found it. Grace is available in the very worst times. Noah found that grace and so can you. No man is forced to go down with the crowd. There is grace available to those that want it and to those that look for it.

Now let's look for a moment at Noah's position. There was not a Bible available for him to read, because the Bible had not been written. There was no church for Noah to go to. There was not one family on earth outside his own family that he could go to when he had a problem. There was not one friend to come by and shake his hand, and to give him any encouragement at all. There was no friend with whom he could pray. In fact for years he was the only one that even believed in prayer.

Yet Noah was righteous, because God said that he was. Noah stood a lone figure in those early years to prove that all a man really needed or has to have is God.

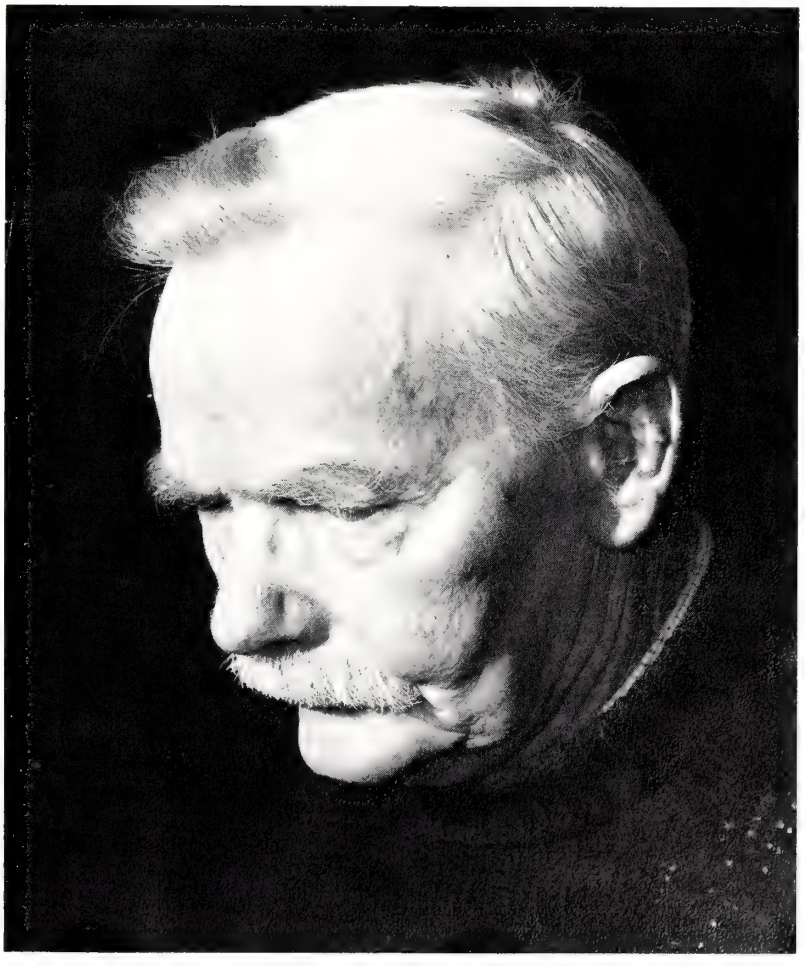
Noah preached, but the only ones that believed his message were his own family. The world would not listen to him, but his family listened and believed the message that the old gentleman preached. They accepted that message proving beyond a shadow of a doubt that they had confidence in what he preached.

Now, what was the secret of Noah's success? It is found in Verse 22. Whatever God told Noah to do, he did it. Noah obeyed God. For over a hundred years, Noah worked and faced a world of people that laughed at him and mocked him because he was building a boat on dry land. But through all this Noah obeyed God.

There is great power in obedience. Obey one command from God and you will have the faith to obey the next one. The more we obey the more faith we will have. Try God. Obey Him, and watch your faith grow.

Then what happened? Noah and his family, among all the earth, were the only ones that rode through the storm safely. They were high and safe and dry in the ark of God's mercy. They were the only ones to survive the flood.

Yes, I believe that Noah proved beyond a shadow of a doubt, that a man can live right in an evil day.



MARCH IS COMING . . .

And So Is Another TELETHON

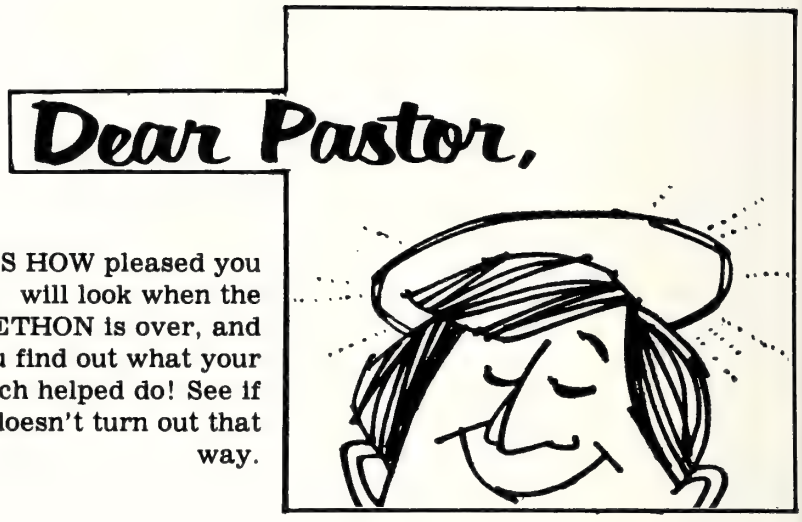
With memories of last year's foreign mission TELETHON still fresh in the minds of many, it is hard to believe that it is time to plan another one. The date for the 1981 TELETHON has been set for March 22, and your calls to Director Joe Ingram should be made anytime between 1:30 and 5 p.m.

Since you probably want to begin making plans for this event, consider each of the following ideas:

1. Materials have been prepared for your use on March 22, by the Foreign Missions Board. If you'd like, they will send you an order blank on which you can designate which and how much of this material you need.

2. Special bulletin covers are being prepared for March 22. These, as is so of all other materials, are free.

3. Attractive and instructive inserts have been prepared which you may place in your bulletins the first four Sundays in March. Those of you who receive bulletins each quarter from the Free Will Baptist Press will find a supply of inserts with the quarter's order. If you are not on the bulletin service offered by the Press, you can order inserts from Mr. Ingram.



THIS IS HOW pleased you will look when the TELETHON is over, and you find out what your church helped do! See if it doesn't turn out that way.

4. Plan a special missions service on March 22. Since March is Foreign Missions Month, this would be a good time for pastors to preach on missions. You might even want to use missionary songs, readings, and prayers.

5. Set a goal for your foreign missions offering. You may be pleasantly surprised to see that you can exceed your goal.

Please notify Mr. Ingram if he can help in any way.

Check this list to see if you are ready for the March 22 TELETHON.

☐ Ordered foreign missions bulletin covers*
☐ Ordered missions inserts for each week*
☐ Began making plans for March 22 TELETHON
☐ Set goal for missions offering
☐ Began praying for missions program and the 1981 TELETHON

*Bulletins and inserts may be ordered from the Rev. Joe Ingram, 3604 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530.

The Book Corner

by Bass M. Mitchell

Smith, D. Moody. **Interpreting the Gospels for Preaching.** Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980.

D. Moody Smith is Professor of New Testament Interpretation at the Divinity School of Duke University. He is also the author of **John** in the Proclamation Commentaries. Dr. Smith has written one of the best books I have read on the insights and contributions that modern Biblical scholarship has made for preaching. He demonstrates how the tools of form and redaction criticism have opened up the Gospels in a new and exciting manner for the preacher. Form criticism is concerned with the individual units of the Biblical tradition such as sayings, parables, and stories. It operates on the premise that these units have an oral history and that the particular form which they have assumed can reveal how they were used and something about the life of the Early Church. It has proved helpful because it "has been able to postulate settings, functions, and histories for the units of tradition which shed light upon their meaning and interpretation."

Redaction criticism examines the role of the Gospel writers themselves. It tries to determine and take into account the theology, the individuality, the literary skill of each writer as he has written and shaped the tradition in light of the problems, needs, and issues of the Early Church. What this does for preaching is to help reconstruct the historical situation of the writer and the Early Church; therefore, revealing the writer's understanding of the tradition and how he intended for his readers to understand it. Unless a serious attempt is made to ascertain this historical understanding, there is the danger that the minister will put his or her own presuppositions into the text and never even get to or present the authentic meaning of the text.

The remainder of the book is the application of these principles to specific passages in the four Gospels. He demonstrates the value of these tools of interpretation for preaching in two sermons. The author states at the end that "exegesis as historically informed interpretation is not all of preaching, and it cannot by itself guarantee authentic preaching. Yet exegesis can and should play a significant and for our time indispensable, role in bringing such preaching forth. This is particularly true of the exegesis of the Gospels." (Exegesis is a Greek word meaning "to bring out," that is, to "bring out" the meaning of the text which the writer intended.)

Children's Home Receives Grant

(Continued from Page 10)

for the care of orphans and half-orphans, for selected capital projects, and for programs designed to improve services to children. Funds are also provided annually for building and maintaining rural United Methodist churches in North Carolina and for the support of retired North Carolina Methodist ministers and dependent families of deceased ministers.

In the residential child care area, 41 institutions received $1,028,000 for assistance in the care of orphaned and half-orphaned children. The appropriation this year benefited approximately 2,700 children who are in residence at 41 Carolina institutions. Twenty-three North Carolina institutions received $684,384, and eighteen South Carolina institutions received $343,616. During 1980, trustees appropriated an additional $495,500 to children's homes for capital and special projects.

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home received $17,274.66 for this year from the Duke Endowment. Duke funds have been a significant part of the development of our Family Services Department. The Duke grant represents about 3½ percent of our total budget.

You Teach
LITTLE
by what you
SAY,
but you teach
MOST
by what you ARE.

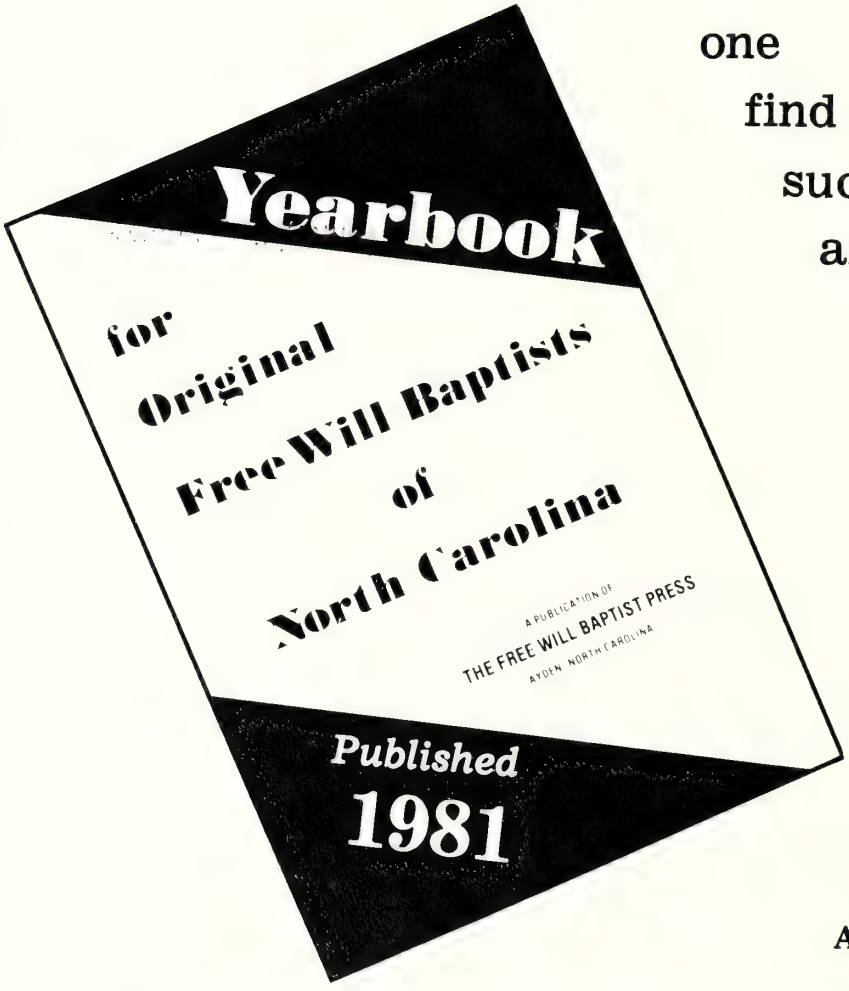
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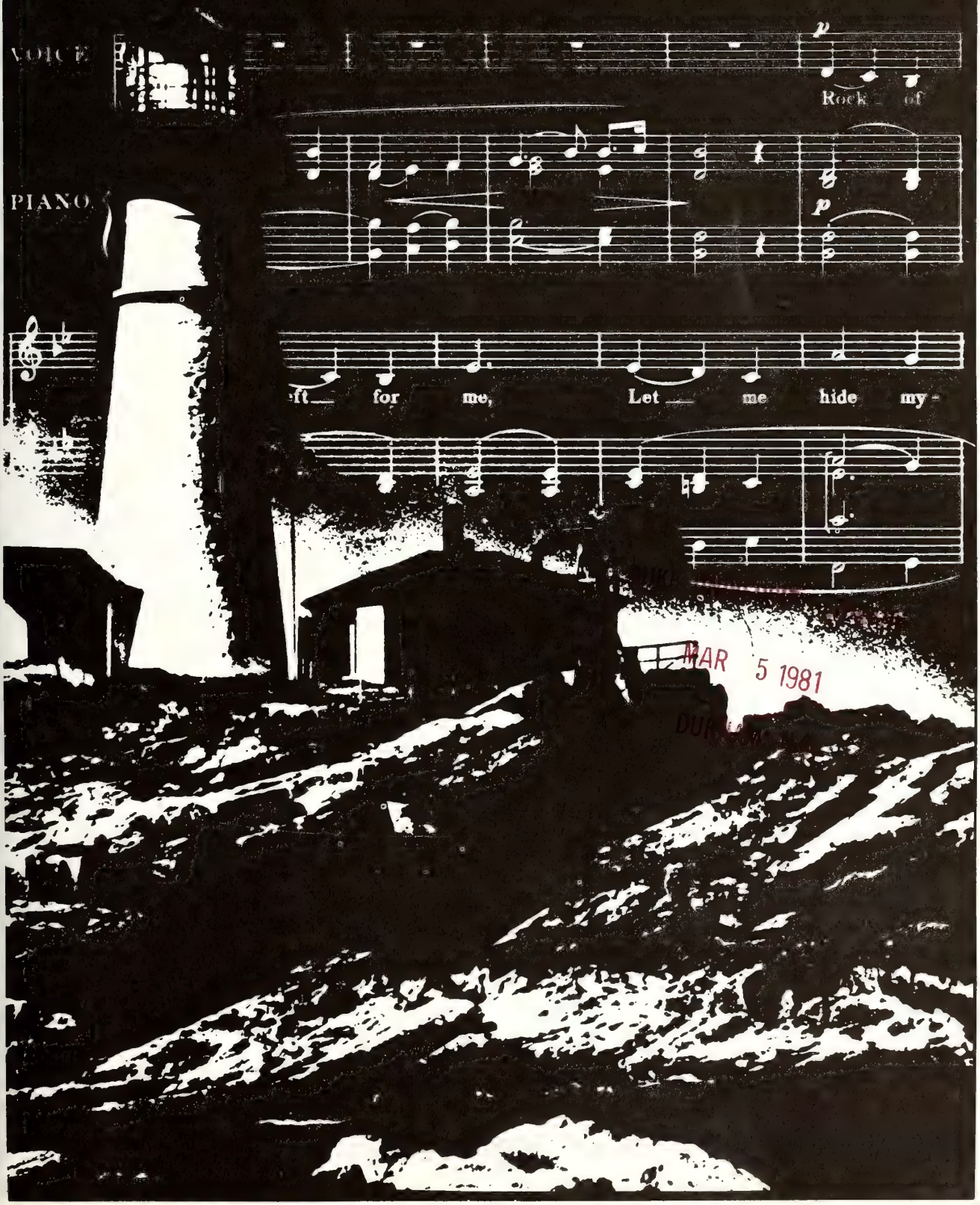


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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



MAR 5 1981

On Bad Days and Problems

Have you felt like giving up lately? Have you been tempted to "throw the towel in"; to ask, "What's the use?" Sure, we all have bad days, but does it seem as though things only get worse?

In the beginning, there were no problems. All was bliss. But when sin came into the world, so did trouble; and we inherit some problems just because we are human. Sickness, physical weakness, aging, and death are all part of the natural course of life. But many of the real problems that concern us are problems we cause ourselves—you know, that secret weakness that drives us to do terrible things, that thing we let come between us and that other individual, that problem (which is known by us and supposedly hidden to others) that threatens our well-being. It all started out to be so insignificant, but now it threatens to destroy—yea, wreck— our lives.

It is always refreshing to watch young children when they encounter difficulties. They see their problem as being as large as a mountain. But when they are in Mother's or Father's arms, their trouble just seems to disappear. Adults are not so easily comforted. (I guess some of us thrive on difficulties.) We can talk with the man next door, our friend across town, that person seated near us on the bus—but they have problems too. Some of us cautiously talk with our ministers (but then again, we wonder if we really want to tell them our innermost secrets). Now don't misunderstand, some of our problems are small—they concern trivial matters and take only a few minutes to solve. But when those "big ones" come, the last thing we want is for someone to belittle us. We need someone bigger; we need Jesus. The Scriptures promise that we can cast "all our cares upon him; for he careth for us."

Often we need courage to face our problems. We have become experts (even geniuses) at "passing the buck," at thinking up excuses. We have even devised many escapes. "It's someone else's fault," we claim. Needless to say, that excuse is as old as mankind, for Adam used it in the Garden of Eden. I will have to admit that it is easy to blame others—who wants to look incompetent or bad? Sometimes we try to deny that our problems exist—we become like little children who believe it will all disappear when they close their eyes; but "burying our heads in sand" doesn't solve much more than trying to evade the issue. But we don't have to run from our problems; we can face them head on.

Once we accept the fact we have a problem, we need the wisdom to understand that problem. Attempting to resolve a difficult situation without understanding it is much like trying to unscramble an egg. God can provide us with the wisdom we need, but we probably won't hear any voices or see any visions. The world will not stop for us to determine what we should do. Instead, God will speak to us through His Word, prayer, and the wise counsel of believers. Often it takes time

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause c Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and w reserve the right to refuse any article or news that i inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policie and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony an cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foun dation and the North Carolina State Convention o Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect th beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Wi Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is give the person whose name appears under the title or t the person submitting said article.

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MUSICAL CHURCHES

submitted by Harry Brown

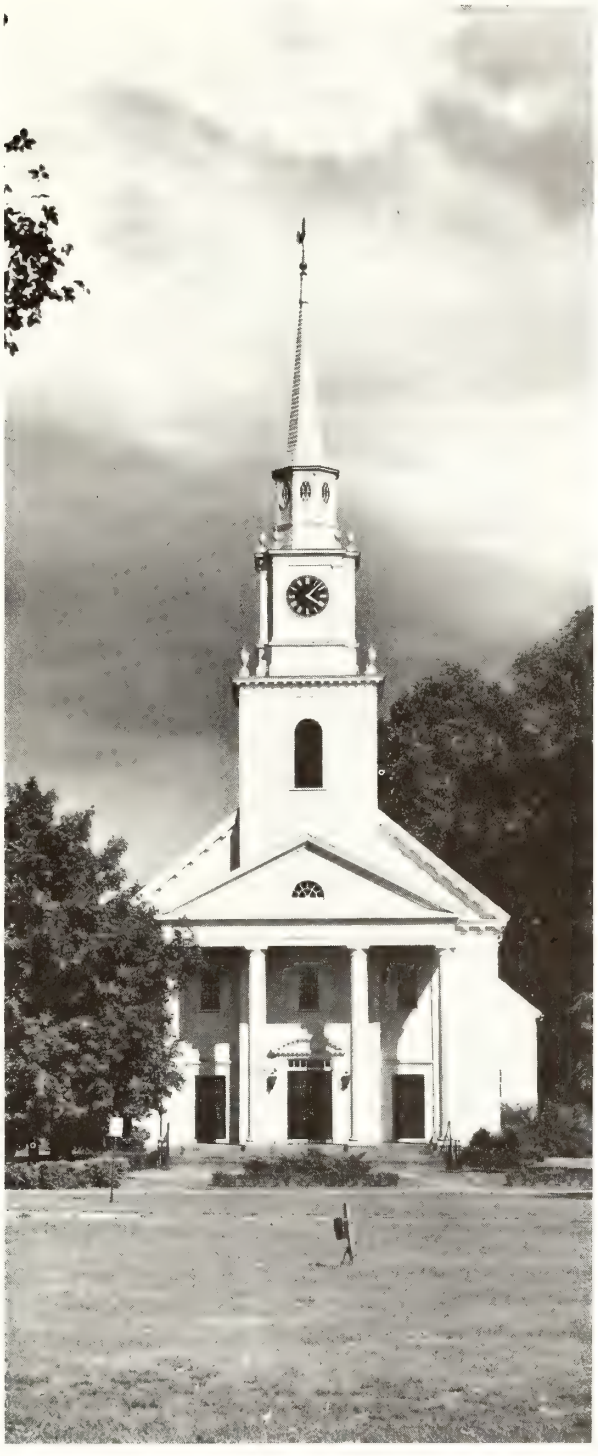
FUNDAMENTAL Baptist churches are infected with a disease we call "musical churches," with pastors rotating through our churches as if it were a game. So frequent is this rotation that I fear the Christian ministry is suffering because of it. Let me explain.

A survey I did in one area of Michigan showed an average length of ministry as a little over four years. This involved some 78 churches. Since nine of these pastors had served their churches for more than nine years, with these removed, the average length of service for a pastor in the remaining 69 churches was just over three years. I have been interested in this phenomenon for some time and would like to share a burden I have about frequent pastoral changes.

The Word of God uses the word *pastor* and *shepherd* interchangeably. While a pastor is also an elder and a bishop (overseer), he is transcendentally a shepherd (Acts 20:17-29; 1 Peter 5:1-4). If you will take time to review the Word of God and consider what a shepherd actually is, it will be easier for you to feel the concern I have.

The word *shepherd* suggests many things, including the fact that a shepherd lived with his flock as a life-time ministry. The sheep were born and died while the shepherd stayed on. There is a point here. While not judging any individual, it is suggested that many pastors follow an unwise course in moving as often as the overall record shows.

When a pastor is with his flock for a period of years the flock begins to talk and act like him; and longer than that, they begin to trust him and follow him. Some authorities on the ministry believe that a man only truly begins to shepherd a flock after five years with them. However, some



men are not willing to be patient and lay the groundwork for such a ministry. What are the arguments in favor of men moving frequently? What causes some pastors to have relatively short terms as shepherds? Different men have different gifts. Some are evangelists; some are Bible teachers; others excel in administration. Through the years, they say, the church should have a period of evangelism, of Bible teaching and of good administration.

(Turn the Page)

May I suggest that if a man be called to the ministry of evangelism, he should perhaps be an evangelist and not a pastor? And if a man be given to Bible teaching, and that is his lone gift, may it not be well for him and the church that he give himself to that kind of ministry full time? The Bible clearly teaches that the pastor must be adept in all these areas. He may not be the best at each, but he must be capable at each; and sufficiently so that he can adequately fill the role of an evangelist, teacher and administrator (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9).

It seems inconsistent that God would assign responsibility without providing ability to carry out the assignment. "God never leads but what He precedes. God never guides but what He provides." Every pastor has his strengths and weaknesses, but his weaknesses can be complemented and overlooked by a loving flock. Weak areas can be strengthened by wise sheep who know how to follow and where to work. Evangelists in the New Testament often stayed longer in their places of ministry than some present-day pastors do! Why do pastors have short tenures? What prompts them to leave so often?

It is my firm conviction that too many pastors move apart from the will of God for them. Does God move His under-shepherds simply because of trials and difficulties within the flock? Perhaps that is why God put that shepherd there . . . to deal with that problem. Is an obnoxious sheep just cause for a shepherd to flee? Maybe that sheep should leave and the shepherd stay. In Bible times the shepherd did not desert the flock because of difficulty. It was the hireling that fled; but the one who had dedicated himself to the task of defending and protecting and feeding the sheep stayed. True shepherds did not hesitate to fight off wild beasts as did David with a lion and bear. The shepherd stayed by the sheepgate through the long, dark night and put the welfare of his sheep before his own.

I am afraid that too many pastors leave for reasons less than noble, such as cowardice (fear of tackling a problem and seeing it through), insecurity, lack of faith or the unwillingness to "eat crow" and admit a mistake in judgment, to back up and start over.—Clay Nuttall

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Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

for us to know what God would have us do—and most of us are not too well known for our patience; we do not seem to know how to wait (nor do we seem to want to learn).

God can give us the courage to face our difficulties; He can give us understanding; He can also help us take the steps necessary to solve them, even those that are deep-seated and painful. If we are willing, God is able; Christ came that our lives might be made more abundant—not laden with problems. There is no need for us to carry around burdens. They only have a way of stealing our peace, robbing us of sleep, draining us of strength, and making our lives miserable.

Don't think it is always easy to face problems head on, because it is not. Don't think the Christian life is a trouble-free life, for problems often complicate our way. In such times let us remember Isaiah 41:10, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

"OBEDIENCE" A New Puppet Show

Missionary Mattie Link has written a delightful puppet show, especially for children, requiring only one person and a hand puppet. It incorporates both humor and biblical instruction. Write to Director Joe Ingram for a free copy of the play. His address is the Rev. Joe Ingram, Box 979, Goldsboro, NC 27530.



SIZING UP SERMONS

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

To provide important explanations of how the church works, let me tell you about sermons. You'll hear a lot of them in your life, so you might as well know what they're like from the ordained side of the pulpit.

Sermons are the greatest burden and the greatest joy of the preacher. Preparing them is the burden but preaching them is the joy, and if someone's life has been helped by a sermon, that's an extra bonus of satisfaction. On the whole they're more fun to preach than to write and certainly than to hear. A preacher will go around the world to preach a sermon but probably won't go across the street to hear one. A good many men, who in their youth had to sit through the thirty-minute agony week after week, become ministers just so they can preach sermons instead of having to listen to them.

Every sermon is the product of a highly specialized process, and in spite of what you may think, that process does not include reaching into the barrel and dragging out one that has been done before. It can be done, and once in a while is done, but like pickles stored in barrels, they have a tendency to come out pretty sour.

Part of the sermonizing process is to know what type of sermon to write. There is the not-this-but-that type. The preacher says good Christians shouldn't believe this—which happens to be something most of the congregation does believe—but should believe that which happens to be what he believes.

There is the string-of-pearls type. The preacher hasn't much of a point to make, so he disguises the fact by stringing together a lot of anecdotes, stale jokes and stories from *Reader's Digest* that are too old for people to remember they read them there.

There is the I-am-a-modern-prophet type. The preacher uses phrases like "The Lord has said" or "Mankind had better remember" or "Don't think that even we will escape judgment" and lays it heavily upon his choice of the great evil-of-the-week.

There is the biblical type. The preacher hasn't had much original thought that week, so he sprinkles his sermon abundantly with passages from Romans and John and Ezekiel, and everyone goes away thinking that this man really knows his Bible. Having a flexible, gold-edged Bible to hold in one hand while preaching enhances this type of sermon greatly.

Sometimes you'll run into the apple-pie-and-motherhood type. The preacher is a little worried that his congregation is starting to think he is a radical, so he comes out strongly for things like prayer, Bible reading in the home and school, the Ten Commandments, and the Sermon on the Mount.

And there's always the literary-lion type. The preacher quotes from Shakespeare, Chaucer, Browning, and Bonhoeffer and never lets on that he got these gems from his handy book of famous quotations. If his congregation is a bit sophisticated, he'll even throw in something he read on the dust-jacket of *I'm Okay, You're Okay,* or *Future Shock.* It pays to be able to recognize the types, and you can even keep awake just trying to spot them.

Preachers know that the most impressive sermons are those preached without notes. They may have little to say, but if they say it extemporaneously they'll make a big hit. Of course, some extemporaneous sermons are carefully written, memorized in the late hours of Saturday night, and practiced before a mirror early Sunday morning.

If you're going to be a good sermon hearer, you need to know about cues. Cues tell you when and how to respond. When you notice the preacher has paused and is looking out at you with a mild grin on his face, that's a cue. He's said something clever, and you're supposed to laugh. When he says, "Someone once said,—," that's a cue. It means that he made it up, but you're not supposed to think so. If he has a fit of gentle coughing and must turn his head away or take a sip of water, that's a clue that he has lost his place. You should wait innocently until he gets back on the track again. When he takes off his watch, looks at it, and then lays it carefully on the pulpit, that's a very important cue. It means you should get comfortable, because he's going to keep you there right up to the stroke of noon.

Some people refuse to know about sermons. They just come and listen to whatever pours forth. But you can be a more educated listener, now that you've learned some of the inside secrets of the craft. Just don't tell anyone who spilled the beans to you.—Paul A. Corcoran

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SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Scripture Reading—Colossians 1:20

WHAT'S AHEAD?

Dr. Wilbur Smith was asked, "What do you see ahead for evangelical Christianity?"

Smith replied, "I am not a prophet, but if we lose confidence in the Scriptures, evangelicalism is going to decline. If there is a rebirth of confidence in the Scriptures, then the evangelical cause will flourish again. I don't think there is any other way to be reconciled to God than through the blood of the Cross. I am disturbed by new versions of the Bible that substitute the words 'death of Christ' for 'blood of Christ' in a number of places. This is tampering with very important terms, and it is all wrong."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (1 Timothy 3:16, 17).

MONDAY, MARCH 9

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 4:8

DEATH'S SHADOW

In the Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery hangs William Holman Hunt's famous picture "The Shadow of Death." The artist shows Jesus as a youth in Joseph's shop just as the sun, sinking in the western sky, sends its slanting rays through the open door. Jesus has risen from work and is stretching out His tired arms. As He does this, the rays of the setting sun throw His shadow on the wall behind Him so as to suggest a man on a cross.

This picture implies the truth that Christ lived all of His life in the shadow of the Cross, knowing that the Cross embodied God's will in His life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Now is my soul troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour" (John 12:27).

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 13:7-14

PENNY WISE,
POUND FOOLISH

Mary MacMahon, an aged widow, lived in Hollywood, Florida. When she died, officers found a fortune stashed away in her home. Detective James Hampton reported, "I've never counted as much money before, and possibly I never will again."

The officers found stacks of stocks in a closet and much cash stored in cardboard boxes on the floor and shelves everywhere. The bills ranged from ones to hundreds and the find totalled $242,283.87.

Said Detective Hampton, "The queer thing about the situation was a safe in the home which was cemented to the floor. In the safe was approximately $150 in penniés. One of the pennies was carefully wrapped in paper which bore the notation, 'Found shopping on Van Buren Street.' "

Was not that eccentric widow who safeguarded so carefully the pennies, without similar concern for the $242,283.87, "penny wise and pound foolish?"

How like her are those who barter imperishable spiritual riches for mere trifles. Esau did that.

PRAYER THOUGHT

". . . for one morsel of meat (he) sold his birthright . . . afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears" (Hebrews 12:16, 17).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 46:18

THE FOUNTAINHEAD
OF VITALITY

Said Dr. John R. Mott in *International Review of Missions,* "It is proved that the more open-minded, thorough and honest we were in dealing with those non-Christian faiths, and the more just and generous we were, the higher Christ loomed in His absolute uniqueness, sufficiency and supremacy—as One different from the rest, strong among the weak, erect among the fallen, believing among the faithless, clean among the defiled, living among the dead—the fountainhead of vitality, the world's Redeemer and Lord of all!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

". . . we preach Christ crucified, . . . Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God" (1 Corinthians 1:23, 24).

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Scripture Reading—Acts 7:24

WOMEN HIT BOTTOM FASTER

Said Harvey Fiske of the National Council on Alcoholism, "Today there are as many women alcoholics as men. They may be doing more damage and be even further away from help than men. We don't like to think of women as drunks. We don't want anyone but the mother taking care of the children. We don't think of women on skid row. That's because they are not there. They are behind the picket fence, the picture window."

Said Mrs. Mary Mann, founder of the National Council on Alcoholism, "A woman alcoholic is basically a hidden alcoholic. It may take ten years for a man to become an alcoholic. During that time he can lose his job, his family, his financial resources. A woman at home all day has more time to devote to drinking, and can hit bottom faster. The damage a woman can do to her family during that time, however, is immeasurable. Fifty-one percent of alcoholics are children of alcoholics. Fifty percent of juvenile delinquents are from alcoholic homes!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Scripture Reading—Matthew 21:15

TRY TEARS

In the 1966 Berlin Conference on Evangelism, Evangelist Fernando Vangioni related this story:

"At the close of a meeting in a Spanish church in New York City, inquirers were shunted to a back room for instruction. A young woman in the group demurred, feeling trapped by the procedure. She said to me, 'You can't do anything for me. I am no good. I don't want to hear any more preaching.'

"I countered, 'Let me just pray for you. Then you may go if you wish.'

"As I prayed, my heart so melted in tenderness for the discouraged, disillusioned girl that my voice broke and tears ran down my face.

"As I dried the tears from my eyes, I said, 'I've prayed. You may go now.'

"The young woman, deeply moved, said, 'I will stay. You have wept for me! Now you may talk to me!' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; . . . to comfort all that mourn" (Isaiah 61:1, 2).

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Scripture Reading—Luke 3:4-7

COLD AND CALLOUSED

One day a stranger asked John Wyeth, "Are you a Christian?"

Sadly Wyeth replied, "I used to be, but I have become cold and calloused. I have wandered far from God!"

The questioner didn't comment but began to sing softly the hymn, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing."

Deeply touched, Wyeth cried, "I wrote that hymn!"

When God's children lapse into indifference and cease loving Christ first, they forfeit their Christian joy and fellowship, and they become defeated and dejected.

How tedious and tasteless the hours,
When Jesus no longer I see!
Sweet prospects, sweet birds, and sweet flow'rs
Have all lost their sweetness to me!

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit" (Psalm 51:12).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

News of Interest

Revlon, the company which says in replies to people who write concerning their helping sponsor some television programs that "Revlon primarily associates its commercial messages with entertainment shows that are glamorous, exciting and spontaneous," has been cited by the National Federation for Decency as being the top sponsor of sex on television. The company was cited following a twelve-week monitoring of prime time television by the NFD.

When you mention the National Federation for Decency to people who produce television shows, you invariably prompt a reaction—coughing, cursing, convulsions, or hives. The federation is what TV types sneeringly call a "pressure group."

At present, the group is out to save "The Wonderful World of Disney," which NBC plans to cancel at the end of this season, and "The Waltons," which CBS is axing.—**NFD Informer**

March Is
Foreign Missions
Month

NEWS & NOTES

Revival to Be Held
At Watery Branch Church

Revival services will be held at the Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg, North Carolina, March 9 through March 14. The Rev. Wayne King will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. There will be special music presented by the church and local groups. The Rev. A. G. Smith, pastor, and the church membership cordially invite everyone to attend.

Holly Springs Church
To Have Revival Services

Revival services will begin March 16 and will continue through March 20, at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Dewey Boling. There will be special singing featured each night. The pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, and the congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Robert's Grove Church
Announces Revival

The congregation of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Dunn, North Carolina, announces revival services beginning on Monday, March 2, and continuing through Friday, March 7. The Rev. Earl Glenn will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin at 7:45 p.m. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Fourth Union of the
Central District to Meet

The Fourth Union of the Central District will meet at Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, on March 29. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "He Keeps Me Singing"
—Welcome, J. R. Gay
—Response, Sudie Wiggins
11:15—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Missions Report
11:30—Special Music, Aspen Grove Quartet
—Sermon, the Rev. Danny Braswell

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Hymn, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
—Devotion, Edgewood Church
—Musical Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

Winterville Church
Has Banquet

The Nobles Men's Class of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, sponsored a Valentine Banquet on February 11 at the Winterville Community Building. Frank Branch, master of ceremonies, welcomed everyone. Guy Corbett gave the invocation. After a delicious turkey dinner, the Rev. Ed Taylor, pastor, spoke on "Loving One Another."

The Booster Band delighted everyone with a special rendition of Valentine songs after which Wayne Vincent led in a "Sing-along." Mrs. Minnie Hines and Mr. Leo Tripp were crowned King and Queen of Hearts. They were presented boxes of candy. The teenagers and VIP class sang "I Loved You in the Springtime" with the boys singing to Mrs. Hines, followed by the girls singing to Mr. Tripp.

Mrs. Frank Branch was the speaker for the occasion and proved to be quite a comedienne.

Some of the members present were celebrating birthdays during Valentine week; therefore, "Happy Birthday" was sung to Mrs. Betty Nobles, Mrs. Mamie Ruth Cayton, Wilbur Cayton, William Nobles, Randy Wingate, Karl McLawhorn, and Emerson Hobgood.

Family Sunday at
Gum Swamp Church

On March 8, Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, will observe Family Sunday. All family members and friends are invited to join in with Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. This has proved to be a very special occasion for all who attend. The AFC and YFA of the church will be offering a chicken pastry lunch following the morning worship service. The funds from the lunch will be used for youth work in the church. It is hoped that everyone will want to share this special event with family and friends.

State League Convention
To Meet

The State League Convention will meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church in Winterville, corner of Depot and Chapman Streets, on Saturday, March 7. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the convention will begin at 10 a.m. It is hoped that everyone will attend and bring a good representation from the leagues.

This year's theme is "He's Able." An interesting program, with Miss Becky Jo Sumner as speaker, has been planned.

Don't miss the inspirational topic!

Always a highlight of the convention, the Junior and Intermediate Sword Drills will be held with winners receiving an expense-paid or one-half expense paid trip to Cragmont for the Christian Cadet Conference this summer. Each church should enter one contestant in the Junior drill (ages 9-11) and one contestant in the Intermediate drill (ages 12-15).

The State project is to raise money for the building fund at Cragmont, since the league convention is one of the sponsors of Cragmont. It is asked that leagues send a generous contribution for this state project—at least $75; or whatever amount they can.

Piedmont District Youth Meeting to Be Held at Highland Pines Church

On March 14 the Piedmont District Youth Meeting will be held at Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church in Hamlet, North Carolina. The meeting will begin at 12 p.m.

Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary to Meet

The Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet on April 11. It will be held at Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church in Hamlet, North Carolina. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

Revival Service to Be Held at Oak Grove Church

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Newton Grove, North Carolina, will have its spring revival, March 9 through March 13, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Ed Miles will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. C. Felton Godwin is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Children's Home Day Set at Piney Grove

A day to remember the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, has been planned at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort County. The day will be March 15, 1981. It will feature a group of the youth from the Children's Home in concert. They will be singing under the direction of staff member Jeanie Brickhouse.

Others on the 11 a.m. program are expected to include the Rev. Stewart Humphrey, superintendent. A special offering will be given the Home during the service. Also set to boost and complement the observance will be Sunday school at 10 a.m., led by Mr. Alton Ausbon, Sunday school superintendent.

The pastor, the Rev. Beverly Ballard, joins the membership in inviting any and all who can to be present for this occasion.

Revival at Hugo Church

Revival services will begin March 9 and will continue through March 13, at the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Grifton, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The church is located one mile east of Hugo Cross Roads.

The Rev. Clyde Cox of Wilson will be the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, and the congregation extend to everyone an invitation to attend. There will be special singing each evening.

Revival Services Scheduled At Cabin Church

Revival services will begin at Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, near Beulaville, on Monday night, March 9, and continue through Friday, March 13. The evangelist will be Mr. Dean Kennedy, a Home Missions worker. Services will begin each night at 7:30; prayer rooms will open at 7:15 p.m. There will be special music throughout the week.

The pastor, the Rev. William Littleton, and the members of Cabin church extend an invitation for everyone to attend these services.

Pleasant Grove Church Announces Revival Services

Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Erwin, North Carolina, will have revival services March 9 throughout the remainder of the week. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Joe Griffith. The pastor, the Rev. Arnold Price, and family will be singing along with other singers. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Valentine Banquet Held At Saint Mary's Grove

Approximately forty-five people met in the Fellowship Hall at Saint Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Benson, North Carolina, Saturday evening, February 14, for a Valentine Banquet given for the young people of the church.

As the couples entered through a trellised archway, they were greeted by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lee. Mrs. Lee presented heart-shaped programs as she seated the guests.

Seated at the head table were the host and hostess; the pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Rod Jones; Mr. Don Clifton, master of ceremonies; Mr. and Mrs. Troy Byrd, youth directors; and Mr. and Mrs. Danny Coats, YFA sponsors.

A delicious meal was served to the guests. The waitresses were Mrs. Joane Clifton, Catherine Cobb, Melverine Langdon, Gwyn Roberts and Nina Roberts.

A welcome was extended by the president of the YFA, Miss Veta Matthews. Miss Pansy Byrd, assistant youth director, gave an inspiring devotion comparing the physical and spiritual heart.

After the meal, everyone enjoyed an interesting and entertaining program of skits and

(Continued on Page 15)

Making Disciples in the Philippines

In Matthew 28:19, 20, Jesus said that we are to go into all the world and "make disciples," that we are to instruct them in His ways, and that He would be with us. This is what our missionaries, the Fred Baker family, are doing in the Philippines.



The Fred Baker Family

The Rev. Fred Baker asks that you remember the following prayer requests:

1. Pray for the construction of the new building on the Palawan Bible Institute (PBI) campus.

Construction began on a new building on the Palawan Bible Institute campus January 15, 1981. The projected date for finishing the building is March 20, 1981, the date scheduled for the first PBI graduation exercises.

Brother Loreto Malinao is the contractor in charge of building and labor; Fred Baker is in charge of securing building materials and permits.

The ground floor of this building will house the kitchen, dining room, and two offices. The second floor will be large enough for two classrooms and a library that can also be used for a classroom. All of the classrooms will open up into an auditorium with stage. This new building will tie together the two existing dormitories.

2. Continue to pray that the lost will come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

3. Pray that we who labor here may have a greater compassion for the lost.

4. Pray for the PBI students.

5. Thank God for what He has done, for what He is doing, and for what He is going to do in the future here in the Philippines.



The 1980-81 PBI student body



The PBI campus

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

"CAN-CAN CAMPAIGN"



From left to right: the Rev. Melvin K. Everington, pastor; Cathy Herring, ount Olive College student; Dr. Raper; Mrs. Janet Brown, coordinator of the 'AN-can" Campaign; and Larry Brown, Mount Olive College student.

Thirty-six colorfully decor- ted "CAN-cans" concluded ie lesson in the adult class t White Oak Grove Free Vill Baptist Church. Peanut nd coffee cans wearing a coat f contact paper with the adorn- ient of a banner, "Putting Iount Olive College First" ere distributed throughout the ionth of January to each fami- represented. The teacher, Irs. Janet Brown, challenged ie class members to fill the ans with coins so that Mount live College "CAN" reach the oal of a four-year college.

The contents of all the cans taled $149.34 for College Hall. ther months in the year have een designated as "CAN- ans" for each of the Free Will Baptist denominational enterprises.

The Rev. Melvin K. Everington serves as pastor of White Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, located at Route 3, LaGrange.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Ormondsville church on Sunday, March 8, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Jack Mayo.

CIRCLE HAS PROJECT IN LADIES AUXILIARY WORK

submitted by Marilyn Lassiter

Last year one of the circles of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina, decided as its project for the year to buy drapes to hang behind the choir and to reupholster the altar cushions and the cushions in the two seats on the rostrum.

The ladies worked hard to raise the money for this project. They checked to find out how much it would cost to get this done. They found that the cost would be $600 or a little more. This didn't hold the ladies back at all; it only made them more determined to finish this project with the Lord's help.

Most of the ladies in this circle receive only one income a month, thus causing them to have less to give for this project than those in other circles who worked and could give more.

The circle decided at the last of the year to have a chicken and dumpling sale to raise more money to finish this project. The Ladies Auxiliary was asked to help provide some needed items for the sale. The circle helped them and the auxiliary raised a little over $400 from the sale, which was used for the project.

One of the other circles in the auxiliary which had already finished their project and had a little money left over donated their extra money to this circle to help it with its project.

All the money was finally raised and the last of January, the drapes were hung and the cushions were covered. They were very beautiful to see. The drapes are red velvet with white sheer drapes in the middle, that can be drawn to close off the baptismal pool when desired. The cushions are also covered with red velvet.

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St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 15

QUESTIONS OF PRIORITY

Lesson Text: Matthew 22:15-32
Memory Verse: Matthew 22:21

I. INTRODUCTION

Matthew records several exciting events that occurred between last Sunday's lesson text and today's text. Last Sunday's lesson found Jesus in Perea, east of the Jordan. Today's lesson finds Him in Jerusalem.

In traveling from Perea to Jerusalem, Jesus passed through Jericho, where He healed two blind men. Then followed the triumphal entry, which occurred on Sunday of the final week of Jesus' earthly life. On Monday He reentered the city and cleansed the temple again as He had done three years before. Amidst the praise of the huge crowd of people in the temple, Jesus spent the remainder of the day healing the blind and the lame as they came to Him. Enraged by the response of the multitudes to Jesus, the religious leaders were determined to destroy Him and His influence one way or another. And so when He returned to Jerusalem on Tuesday, they immediately challenged His authority. The result was a furious debate that must have continued most of the day. Today's lesson, relating attempts by the Pharisees, Herodians, and Sadducees to trap Him, occurred in the midst of this confrontation. **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In our study of the Gospel of Matthew, you have noted that this is preeminently the Gospel of the King. Matthew is a Jew writing to Jews, and all the way through his Gospel he seeks to show that Christ is the promised Messiah, the King of the Jews. This is why there are more quotations from the Old Testament in Matthew than in either of the other Gospels. This is also the reason why Matthew is placed as the first book in the canon of the New Testament. But we also must remember that the Jews rejected Christ as their Messiah and King. "He came unto his own and his own received him not" (John 1:11).

B. We have come to that place in the Gospel of Matthew where Christ turned away from the Jews because of their rejection of Him. At the close of the parable of the householder in Matthew 22, Jesus made a significant statement in answer to a question that the disciples asked Him. "Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matthew 21:42, 43).

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Christians live under two flags: the Stars and Stripes and the Christian flag with its dominant image, the Cross. We are citizens of two kingdoms: the State and the Kingdom of God. The Bible teaches us that we must be loyal to both in order to be good Christian citizens. Our founding fathers wrote into the documents of our early history the need for our stand with firm faith in God and trust in free men.

B. Government is of God. In the beginning man was under the dispensation of innocency. Man fell into sin and was expelled from the Garden of Eden. Then began the dispensation of conscience (Genesis 3:23), which also failed causing the world to be destroyed by the Great Flood. The third dispensation was human government (Genesis 8:20) in which God gave man the responsibility of governing himself. While other dispensations followed human government—promise, law, grace, and one to come, kingdom—man is still under the obligation to live in a society of rules and regulations. We have another obligation: living in two kingdoms, we are obligated to both, but if we should ever have to decide where our first priority belongs, we should never forget that our first allegiance belongs to God.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Battle of Shiloh—After the battle of Shiloh in the War Between the States, night fell on a battlefield littered with the dead and dying. One wounded soldier who was a Christian began a song of praise to Christ as Saviour. Another of the wounded men joined the singing, and then another and another. Soon, it is reported that over the groanings of the dying, there arose a soft sweet song of praise. If we are among the redeemed, we can praise Him in any circumstance.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

"JUST A CUP OF WATER"



"It's the little things that count," someone said. A cup of water, n arm around you when you are afraid, a comforting word, a ouch; these little things mean a lot.



Our women across the state have always been faithful to share ith our children the little things and some big ones, too. A monthly llowance, a dish towel, a sheet for some little one's bed, are little hings, but they add up to "good care."

Last year the State project funds were used for a media center or brary. Each auxiliary provided $20 for this project. When all the ndividual gifts from the auxiliaries were combined we were able to provide books, magazines, craft materials, tutorial programs, and many other services needed by our children.



Let's never forget that every little bit helps. No gift to God is ever too big or too small. If it's given in love, it's always just right.

COMING EVENTS

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 7—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.; the program will conclude at 12:30 p.m., followed by lunch at the Winterville Community Building.

March 14—Central District Youth Fellowship will meet at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.; the program will begin at 10 a.m.

April——Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

As we begin a new phase of our retirement ministry, there will be many questions. We would like to use this paper as an open forum to discuss your questions about the new rest home ministry. There will be many others who will be interested in the same things you are and will benefit from the questions you raise. Send us your retirement homes questions today!

Here are some questions and answers that may be of interest to you:

1. **WHAT IS A "REST HOME?"** A rest home cares for groups of retired persons. The group may range in size from 4 or 5 to several hundred. Our rest home will house 12 persons. A rest home provides all meals and some assistance with the residents' daily routine. For instance, one may need help at bath time; another, help in remembering when to take medicine; others, someone to drive them to the doctor or shopping.

Most rest homes will have 2 residents per room, as will ours. There will be space for one married couple or two handicapped persons (persons confined to wheelchairs or walkers).

There will be planned group activities, trips, religious services, arts and crafts and other activities. Church groups will be encouraged to visit and share programs with the retirees.

2. **WHO WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR OUR REST HOMES?** Retired Free Will Baptist church people and denominational employees of 10 years or more and our pastors and their wives or widows.

3. **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES TO OPERATE A REST HOME?** Once the building is ready and the equipment is purchased there will be little need for assistance for operation of the Home. The residents will pay the basic cost of the monthly operating expense of the rest home.

Send in your questions to the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc., P.O. Box 250, Middlesex, NC 27557.

CIRCLE HAS PROJECT

(Continued from Page 11)

It is felt that the ladies in this circle and those that helped them raise the money needed for this project deserve special recognition for a job well done and a strong faith in Christ. This goes to show that, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."

ATTENTION EASTERN CONFERENCE WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

All roads will lead to Kinston on April 25, for the State Youth Convention at Lenoir Community College with the Eastern Conference serving as host.

Since the Woman's Auxiliary sponsors the youth groups, we are asking each auxiliary to send $10 to help defray the expenses for lunch that day. Checks should be made out to the Eastern District Youth Convention and earmarked for food expenses of the State Youth Convention. You can send your contribution to the Eastern District Youth Convention, March 14, at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church; or the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, March 19, at Rock of Zion; or to Deborah King, 1316 Manchester Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

Deborah King

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Beverly Ballard announces that as of March, he will be available for services on second and fourth Sundays either as a part-time pastor or a supply minister. He states that he also has some openings this fall for revival meetings. He may be contacted at 749 Fairmont Village, Ayden, North Carolina 28513; phone, 746-6046

A Personal Note from Taylor Hill

As a usual thing I have little trouble saying what I feel and need to say, but here I find myself in a position where I don't know where to begin nor how to say all that I need to say.

First, I want to acknowledge and thank all of you, dear friends, who have been so good to me with your prayers, phone calls, visits, financial gifts, cards and letters. My problem is being able to acknowledge every church, organization, and individual that has and is showing concern for me.

For those who might not know what I am talking about, I had an operation for a brain cancer that was in its last stages the middle of December. My surgeon told me that I had the worst kind, so I had better do some hard praying. I understand that churches and ministers, youth groups, auxiliaries, Sunday school classes, and hundreds or perhaps thousands of individuals are praying for me. Heaven knows that I am truly thankful for the prayers and the gifts that are helping me with my hospital and medical expenses. My hospital insurance will hardly make a dent in my hospital expenses.

I have just completed seven weeks of radiation treatment at Chapel Hill and will have to check in again in two weeks for more chemotherapy treatments. I don't know exactly what the next step will be after that. Regardless of what happens to me, we have already seen a miracle; our Saviour, Jesus, promises that He will send the Comforter to us in time of trouble, and certainly He has done what He promised. I am getting along far better than the doctors expected and I am not depressed nor crying as is expected in cases like mine (in this stage). It is obvious that our prayers have been heard and answered in that respect. As for my healing, we will just have to wait and see. As for me, I am not worried nor fearful about the future. I am not one who believes in making demands on God; I believe in asking for what we want **and** also being willing for His will to be done.

I want to remind you that my surgeon told me that it would take a lot of hard praying for me to be healed, so I trust that you will continue to pray for me. Heaven knows that I love you all and I thank you from the depth of my heart. And please let's continue to pray for everyone in the world that we think might need our prayers. By all means, let's put God first and help take care of the less fortunate around us and around the world, and God will certainly bless us.



NOTICES

The Western Conference Ordaining Council will meet on Tuesday, March 10, at 10 a.m. The meeting will be held in Clayton, North Carolina, at 712 East Horne Street. Anyone having business with the council is asked to contact Ray Wells, clerk of the council. His phone number is 243-6498 or by writing to Route 1, Box 67-A, Sims, North Carolina 27880.

Ephesus Free Will Baptist Church has a manual Rex-Rotary mimeograph machine for sale. The machine is reported to be in good condition. If interested, contact the Rev. Charles Branch by calling 756-2427, or 756-7634.

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each printing of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, we try to provide information about meetings, details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries, as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service.

When your church does something newsworthy, let us know—there is no charge involved in our printing your news items. Our aim is to serve you.

COMING EVENT

April 4—Alumni Day at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina; annual banquet at 5:30 p.m. on the downtown campus

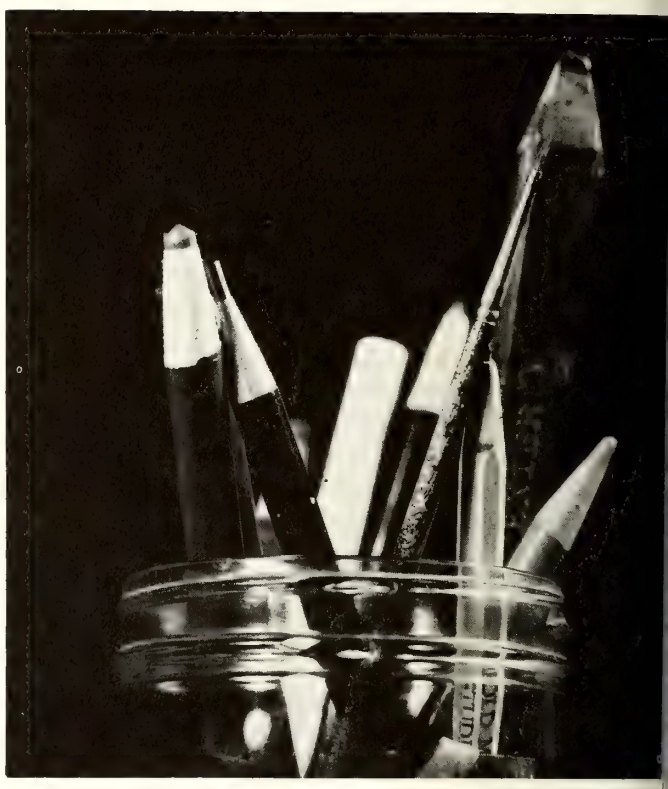
NEWS NOTES

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songs presented by eighteen adults of the church.

After the program, Miss Pansy Byrd presented the Rev. and Mrs. Jones a red and white sweetheart cake.

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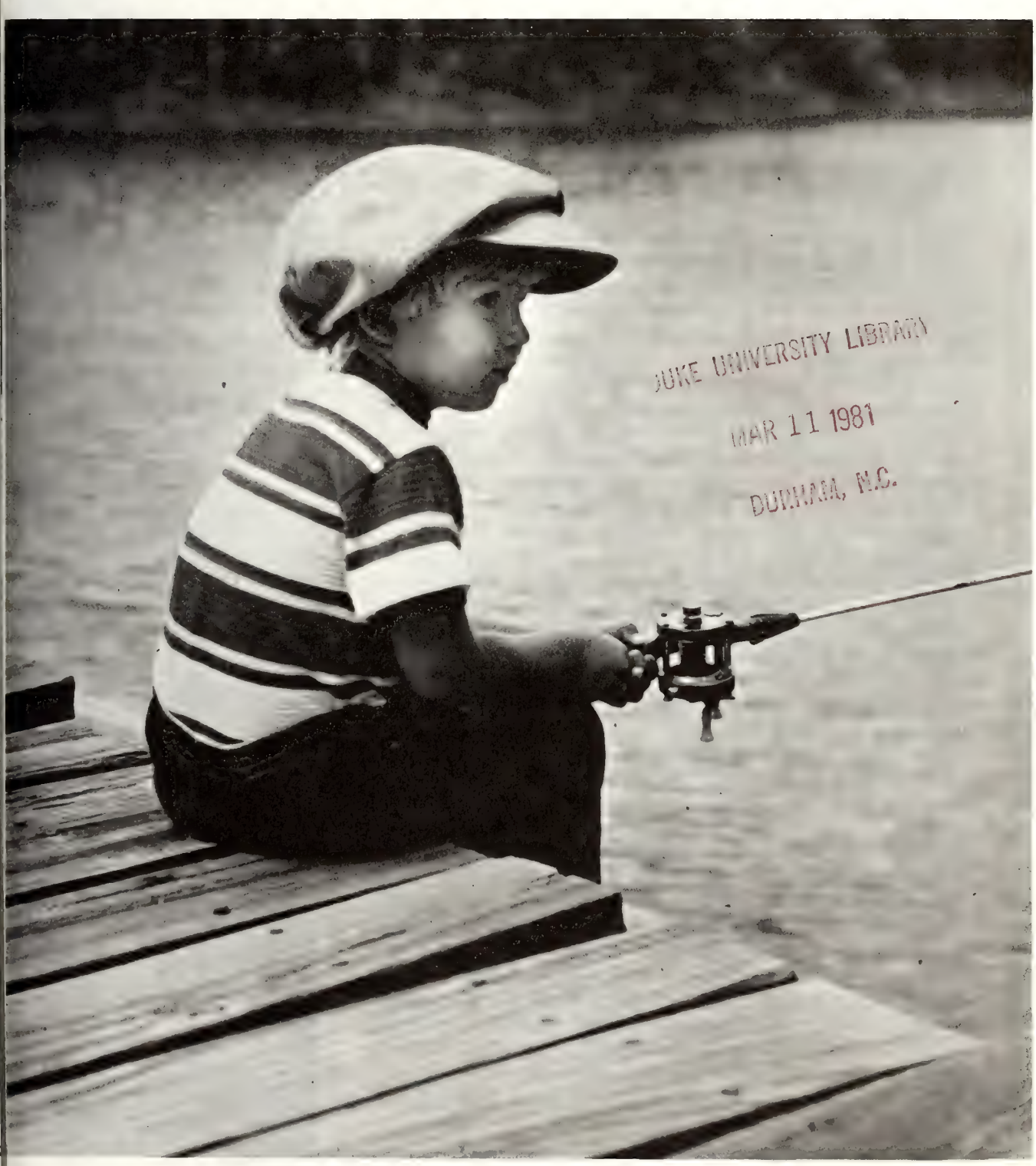
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



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CELEBRATE YOUTH WEEK MARCH 8-15

The Light? Well, It's Green!

A group of young people from Seattle were recently talking about suicide and reincarnation. Afterwards, a 16-year-old boy was killed instantly when the Chevrolet Camaro he was driving smashed into the wall of a local school. The 15-year-old girl riding with him was seriously injured. This accident was no "accident."

The parents of another 16-year-old boy figure their son was drunk and/or high when he was killed by a hit-and-run driver. Many of the boy's associates (ages 11-17) frequently encircle his tombstone to drink tequila, beer, and rum. One of his friends, a 14-year-old girl, envies his being dead. She feels she will not live to see her 26th birthday. But it doesn't matter to her—she says life has no real meaning.

Isolated cases? No, I'm afraid not. Researchers at the University of Michigan recently determined that nearly half of the young people in the United States are considered to be "heavy drinkers" by the time they leave high school. (One of every two boys and one of every three girls is said to have a drinking problem.) Dr. M. Robert Wilson, a psychiatrist who specializes in youth problems, says that 20% of American adolescents are "handicapped by significant boredom and depression." The suicide rate has doubled since 1960 among those who are 15-25; suicide is now the third leading cause of death among teenagers. It has been suggested that today's youth are merely reflecting adult despair. "All of their lives, young people have heard too much talk about political corruption, soaring crime, the threat of nuclear disaster, pollution, running out of resources, inflation, moral decline, the deterioration of the family."

We shake our heads when we hear of young people having problems. We ask, "Do they not have loving parents?" But young people and their problems don't seem to mean a lot to us until the young person in trouble is someone close to us. When a troubled youth has parents who are devout Christians, we scratch our heads, nod in disbelief, and wonder what happened.

For some time now I have been concerned about the dropout rate among young people who attend our Sunday schools and churches. Many boys and girls leave the church while in the junior high department; more quit while they are in high school. These young people are not usually seen again until they walk down the aisle—on their wedding day. Years later, we catch a glimpse of others on Sunday mornings, when they stop in front of the church long enough to let their children off for Sunday school. Some never do return. I have wondered why this happens—it does not have to! Do junior high and senior high students contract some horrid disease? Are they "allergic" to the church? Does worship bore them? Has no one shown these young people they care? Do they not know of God's love? How have—why have—we failed to reach them?

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Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 96 Number 10
March 11, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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OPTIMISTS – UNITE!

by Marvin R. Waters

"Then he answered and spake unto me saying, 'This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts' " ((Zechariah 4:6).

DISTINGUISHED officers of this Convention, delegates, guests—let me say that as a lad growing up in a Free Will Baptist Church in Plymouth, North Carolina, I never realized that I'd be in such a place as this for such a purpose as this. At that young age I did not have any such desire to ever preach the good news. Perhaps it was because at that age I had not yet learned that the gospel, the Christian message, **was** good news.

But I am grateful today for the influence of my youth leaders, and my pastor. I am indebted to men such as the President of our State Convention, David Charles Hansley, and for his enthusiasm. I am grateful for men such as Dr. Burkette Raper whose vision has been such an inspiration to my life. For experiences such as Cragmont camping weeks, for the influence of active lay people, I am most indebted. Being led to the pastorate of what I believe to be the warmest, most wonderful people in a little place called Pinetown has been what I believe to be a miracle of God's grace. And I would not take for granted, the blessing of God of a good wife who has kept me reminded that the gospel is good news to be preached positively and not negatively. Thank God for the many influences upon all of our lives that have led us to this place for such a purpose as this.

Today, I want to speak on this subject: "OPTIMISTS—UNITE!" My text is lifted like a little piece of pie from that wonderful Old Testament book of the prophecy of Zechariah. The chapter is four, the verse is six: *"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."*

Zechariah has been called the "optimist of the prophets." Here was a prophet called to give his message to a people whose hearts and minds were heavy and sluggish with discouragement. The exile was over. Cyrus, the king of Persia, had begun a policy of permitting these displaced people to return to their homeland. Zechariah was in one of the first groups to return to his beloved city of Jerusalem. Only a few young men and a few men in middle life seized the opportunity to return from their captivity. Those who did return to Jerusalem were not finding it an easy task to rebuild. The work of reconstructing the ruined temple and the work of rebuilding the city seemed slow and unimportant, despite the work and able leadership of Zerubbabel the king, and Joshua the high priest. Multitudes of Jews still remained in Babylon, and gave no interest and enthusiasm for the return to Jerusalem. The people were disillusioned. And so it became the prophet's duty to provoke their zeal, to give them confidence in their great men, and above all, instill within them an optimism about the great plan of God in the rebuilding of their nation.

I think there is an application that can be made here that is quite relevant to our time. Were you to graph the mood of our world history you would see a line going up and down in endless fashion. So often we have risen to heights of enthusiasm and confidence, then dipped to depths of fear and discouragement and despair. If the world wars, the Korean conflict, and the Vietnam era instilled in our people anything at all, it seems to have instilled in us a common belief that the kingdom of peace, justice, and freedom seem far beyond our reach despite the enormous sacrifices of recent years.[1]

The same mood of despair has gripped and plagued the soul of the Church. As never before we need to recapture that optimism that characterized the lives of those slaves who lived in the cruel Roman world

(Turn the Page)

in the days of the New Testament. They were slaves, yet through the transforming power and love of Christ, they were made more than conquerors. We need some of that enthusiasm. We need that same power of optimism in our churches. We need to be united in our optimism concerning the Kingdom that is everlasting—that has no end.

The story was told that when the hurricane hit Galveston, Texas, there was a sense of hope and optimism that took hold of those people. One news reporter said that he was reminded of the story of Ole' Sam who took his place on the peak of the roof of his house as the water began to rise higher and higher around his home. One of his neighbors came sailing down the street in his raft. Seeing Sam perched on the top of his roof, the neighbor began to offer Sam some assistance. Sam yelled down that he was going to stick around. He wasn't going to leave. Soon the water would recede and all would be well. With that the neighbor said, "Well Sam, it's dangerous. Look; the water has already taken away your chicken house!" Sam replied, "It don't matter, there weren't any chickens anyway. The old house was rotten, and the ducks that were in it were swimming just fine." Then the neighbor yelled, "Well Sam, it's so bad it has ruined your crop of oranges." And Sam replied, "It don't matter none, neighbor. The drought had already killed that crop. I'll just plant again next year." Then the neighbor, in one last desperate attempt to get Sam to move on, said, "Well Sam, this is serious. The water has already gotten up to your second floor windows." And Sam replied, "It don't matter none. I was planning on washing those windows anyway!"

We need some of that kind of optimism in our church! I wonder, how long will we sit in the seat of the scornful sounding defeat? How long will it take us to learn that the easy way, the popular way to react to our broken dreams, and our delayed hopes is to surrender to the cynicism that characterizes our cities and country and churches? It's so easy to build walls that keep people out and build nets that keep people down. We build those walls every day when we constantly live and show defeat. But it is the OPTIMISTS OF OUR TIME—it is the ones who have refused to give themselves to the negative, those who live in victory and with vision who are building the bridge to a better tomorrow. It is the optimists who are the bridge builders of our day. It is the optimists who are reviving the fire upon the cold altars of humanity's heart.

OPTIMISTS UNITE! Just as Zerubbabel the king—Zerubbabel the layman, and Joshua the priest—Joshua the minister, were called to unite in their efforts, so must we—both the pulpit and the pew unite with confidence and optimism over the task before us!

Allow me to share briefly with you five areas in which we must unite with optimism. These are five areas of responsibility that the minister and the church must share in.

I. First of all, we must be united in our optimism in regard to our **PURPOSE.** We are the Church of Jesus Christ, that one institution that still feebly yet faithfully seeks to promote honesty and integrity in our land. It is not a mark of humility to grovel with our heads in the sand when questioned about our involvement with the Church, someone has said. The Church has forever been the salt of the earth and the light of the world. I believe it is Elton Trueblood who has said that the Church has produced the hottest hearts and the biggest brains this world has ever known. He goes on in his book, **The Incendiary Fellowship** to say that the "Christian fellowship, in order to be true to its vocation, must always be Christ-centered and service-minded."[2] Our purpose is a high and holy purpose. We are to give and to serve, to lift up and not drag down. We are to bless and not to curse, to help and not hinder. Let us be optimists united in our purpose.

II. Second, let us unite with optimism about our **PROGRAM.**

When we think of how the Lord has blessed the many ministries of the Free Will Baptist Church it behooves us to react with deep concern that there are those in our own ranks who will not even support these ministries. I am just not impressed with the word "independent" as it is being used and tossed around in many of our churches. As the body of Christ, we are most DEPENDENT upon all of the members of the body. I find it an amusing thing to see so-called "independent" Baptists and "independent" others patronizing our denominational enterprises on occasion. Perhaps the reason they cannot produce their own literature and support their own schools is because they are unwilling to cooperate in a united program or a denominational effort. I learned something about cooperation and

united efforts in our denominational program from an illustration of James Sullivan in his sermon entitled, "The Responsible Church." The man had a friend over for the evening at his ranch. He took him out across the fields and said, "Look at **my** fields." Then with a sweeping motion of the hand, he declared, "Look at **my** cattle." Then it was, "Look at **my** house." "These are **my** barns," he said. That evening when the gentleman guest had left, the wife of this rancher got out the iron skillet and she hit her husband on the head with it and said, "It is not MY fields, it is OUR fields." Then she let him have it on the left cheek and said, "It is not MY cattle, it is OUR CATTLE." Then with another blow she said, "It is not MY house, it is OUR house." The next morning at 4 a.m., the man was creating quite a disturbance. Pans were clanging. The place was in an uproar. The wife, disturbed by all the noise and commotion, wakened from her sleep and asked, "What in the world are you doing?" And the man replied, "I'm looking for OUR britches so I can take OUR pail out to milk OUR cows!" And Sullivan added to that, "I have a great mistrust for those in the Church who do not trust the Church."[3] Dear people, let us unite with optimism in seeing that the program of our church is supported, that it might minister to the needs of those who need us.

III. Let us also possess an Optimism in our **PLANNING.** Our program will not be much if we are slipshod in our planning. It is true in your local church. Bridges are not built by mere wishful dreaming. We must plan not so much because of who we are but because of who "they are." We pride ourselves on who we are: We claim to be the friendly church. To be the born again. To be the innovative. To be the builders—we have the new baptistry and new fellowship hall to prove it. We so often forget who they are. In our world, "they" are: "They" are the angry—the hostility and revolt in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and the white, black and red ghetto areas of our own land. "They" are the hungry—the best international estimates are that ten million die each year from hunger, nearly 10,000 per day. "They" are the unconcerned—the polls tell us that in America alone, sixty percent of the people do not attend church. "They" are the confused—from the followers of Jim Jones and the Rev. Moon, to the cults and astrology, it is obvious that people are both seeking and confused. "They" are the hurting—and the Bible tells me that we are to include these people in our planning. To refuse to do so is to negate our purpose.[4]

IV. Fourth, let us be optimistic in our **PREACHING!**

This is the day, as never before, to preach that the God of Christ is the God of the Universe. He is our God, and we can know Him! To be able to proclaim the good news one must feel that it is good news. It is the best news ever announced, written, or spoken. And contrary to all that some of you might believe, we have not been called primarily to defend it. We are called to present it. We have not been called primarily to debate which translation of it will take us to Heaven. We have been called to live it—"to flesh it out" in our lives. And ministers and laity, we do our best preaching when we do our best living!

V. Fifth, let us unite with optimism in our **PRAYING.**

Perhaps we have drugged our people with our "Mickey Mouse prayers." Erma Bombeck says that we pray such prayers as, "Lord, if you can't make me look thin, make my friends look fat!"[5] Praying that counts is costly. Jesus in teaching us how to pray uttered the phrase, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth." If I didn't believe that it was possible for His will to be done in earth as it is done in Heaven, I wouldn't pray it. The Kingdom of God is not waiting around. It is coming! If it is not so, our Lord would not have told us to pray that petition. Praying that counts is costly. When Carey began to pray for the conversion of the world, it cost him himself and it cost heavily those who prayed with him. Brainerd prayed for the dark-skinned savages, and after two years of work it cost him his life.[6]

We can be optimistic because of the **POWER** available to us. Look again at Zechariah 4:6: ". . . Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." At best our power is too feeble. But we could never destroy His power! Even a cross and a tomb were unable to accomplish that.

Napoleon was making his ruthless march to try to conquer the world. He had never tasted defeat. He came to a certain place of battle where his forces were being defeated. Napoleon realized he would lose all his men unless he did something to pull back and regroup his forces. So he went up

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Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MOC CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL



The Hopper Brothers and Connie

Plans are well underway at Mount Olive College for the Christian Music Festival to be held at Eagles Nest Conference Center on Saturday, May 2, 1981. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will continue until 5 p.m. The purposes of this music festival are "to honor and glorify God through Christian music" and to provide an opportunity for a day of good Christian fellowship. The theme for this year's festival is "His Sheep Am I."

The groups that will be participating in the festival are The Hopper Brothers and Connie (pictured) of Madison, North Carolina; The Heavenbound of Kinston; The Watchmen of Goldsboro; The Master's Quartet of Pikeville; and The New Creations of Mount Olive College.

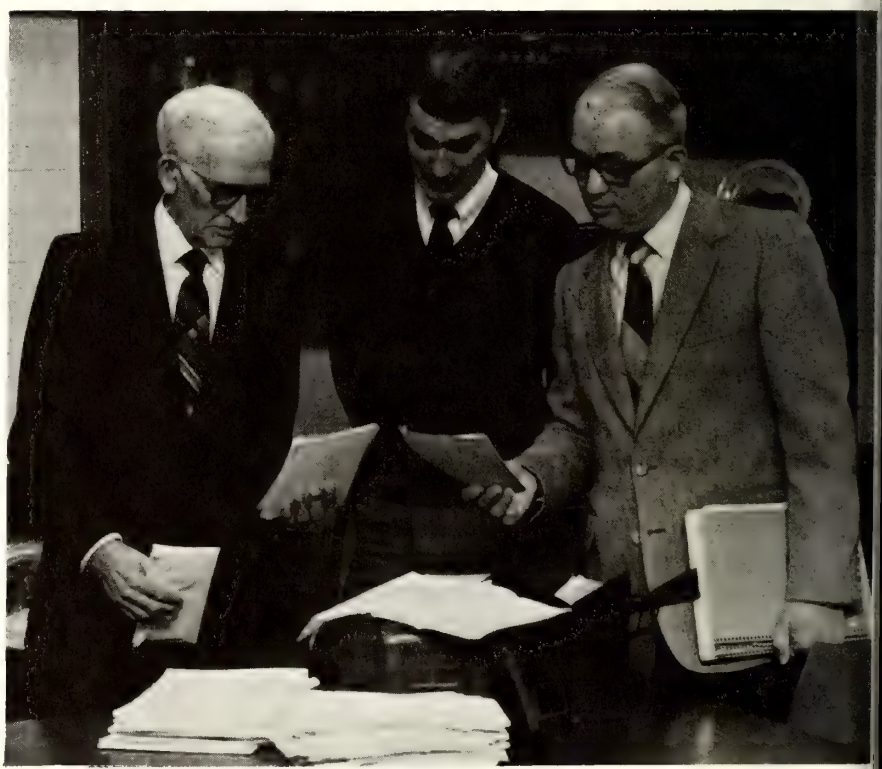
The Christian Music Festival is open to the public, and Mount Olive College urges everyone to come. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro at a cost of $3.25 per plate. Those wishing to bring a picnic lunch are invited to do so.

HISTORICAL COLLECTION GETS VERNON'S PAPERS

Papers belonging to the late Rev. Lloyd Vernon were recently added to the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College. Consisting mainly of handwritten sermons, the materials were given by the late pastor's family.

Receiving the documents for the Historical Collection and the College were the Rev. David W. Hansley, a member of the Board of Higher Education for the State Convention during the time the College was founded; Gary Barefoot, College Librarian; and Dr. Michael Pelt, president of the Free Will Baptist Historical Society and chairman of the Humanities Division at Mount Olive College.

(Continued on Page 9)



Pictured are the Rev. David W. Hansley, left, Gary Barefoot center, and Dr. Michael Pelt, right. (Photo by Teresa Pittman.)



Making Disciples in Mexico

Dear Friends in Christ:

We send greetings to each of you from the mission work here in Mexico. It is through His wonderful love and grace that we can become a part of the great family of God.

We join together with you in prayer for the success of the Telethon just two weeks away. We rejoice that even though we are miles apart, we can rejoice together in the blessings of our Lord. We are praising Him now for the wonderful victory He will send.

God continues to bless His work here in Texas and in the state of Coahuila, Mexico. God is a supernatural God and all that He does is supernatural. During the past year, God has blessed the efforts of His people with over 200 precious souls being added to the church. As the word of God goes out through preaching, tracts and New Testaments, many are responding to His offer of life and peace through a living relationship with Jesus. As they learn His word, they in turn see the need of sharing Christ with those around them. How thrilling it is to watch these, as they study His word, to grow in their spiritual life; to learn to love and trust Him more each day; to come to the place of total dependence on Him.

God has given us the Great Commission to "Go and Make Disciples." Because of your response to this great challenge, God has blessed the work here and throughout the world. As you pray and prepare for this Telethon, may we allow His Spirit to direct us in our giving as we respond to His command and the cry of those living in spiritual darkness. Christ came to bring light and liberty to those living in darkness and bondage. May we do our part in helping to send the message forth.

Again, may God bless you in your efforts there in your home area and our heartfelt thanks for all that you do to help that others may come to know Christ. May we join together in prayer and praise for the opportunity to serve Him in this Telethon.

Love in Christ,
Vance, Mattie, Jodi and Paul

COMING EVENTS

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 14—Central District Youth Fellowship, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; registration, 9:30 a.m.; the program, at 10 a.m.

March 14—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina

March 14—Piedmont District Youth Meeting, Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, beginning at noon

March 19—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro, North Carolina

March 21—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention, Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina

March 22—Foreign Missions Telethon

March 28—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention

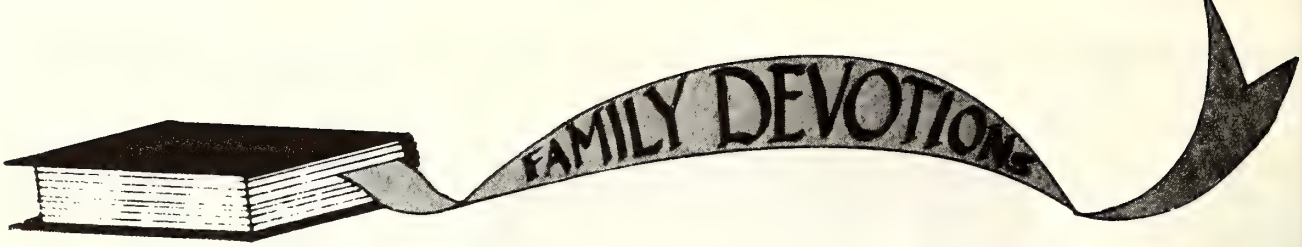
March 29—Second Union of Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, 3 p.m., Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina

March 29—Mount Olive College Sunday in Local Churches

March 29—Fourth Union of Central District, Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina, 9:45 a.m.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Don Kivett announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 2, Box 201-B, Pikeville, North Carolina 27863. His old address was Route 3, Box 334, Elm City, North Carolina 27822.



SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Scripture Reading—Psalm 70:2

HE ONLY TALKED

One night as Dwight L. Moody walked to his home at the close of a service, he overheard two people talking. One asked, "Did Moody preach tonight?" The other replied, "No, he didn't preach. *He only talked!*"

Later Moody commented, "If I can only get people to think I am talking with them and not preaching at them, it is dead easy to get their attention."

One who knew Moody well said of his preaching, "It was straight talking, lit with illustrations always to the point, and backed by his great skill in dealing with the *personal problems of individuals.*"

PRAYER THOUGHT

It has been said that the whole secret of why D. L. Moody was such a mightily used man can be found in Psalm 62:11: "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God." Let us always remember that such power belongs to God.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 32:4

"HIS WAY IS PERFECT"

When searching for David Livingstone, Henry M. Stanley had a most unusual reception from King Mutesa in Uganda. The queen had a strange dream about the white man's God and His Son Jesus Christ shortly before Stanley's arrival. She related her dream after the arrival of Stanley at the royal house.

The king and queen pleaded with Stanley to send a letter to England and ask for a missionary teacher to be sent to them. He wrote the letter and sent it out by a young Frenchman who was leaving Stanley's party.

The bearer of the letter was murdered. Several months later his body was found by some British soldiers. Searching through his clothing, they found Stanley's letter in one of his boots. They sent it to England, where it was featured in the *Daily Telegraph.*

Great interest was aroused. When the Church Missionary Society appealed for missionary volunteers to go to King Mutesa's land, seven young men responded!

Often we do not understand why God allows certain things to occur: "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter" (John 13:7).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"As for God, his way is perfect . . ." (Psalm 18:30).

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Scripture Reading—James 4:10

STILL NEEDED

Charlotte Edwards pleaded, "There was a time in my life, Lord, when I was needed. There was so much to do. I had no chance, nor time, to think of myself. Somebody, or something, demanded my constant attention.

"It's different now that the children are grown. The physical discomforts which I was too busy to do anything but ignore now speak out to me. Past emotional hurts walk into my memory. My thoughts seem to revolve in a very small circle indeed.

"Today, Lord, will You help me lift my mind from the grooves of self? Will you help me direct my thoughts toward those around me again? There must be people who need me.

"Lord, help me to make my days count. Help me to move outward again."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"You may give without loving, but you can't love without giving."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 4:11

BURDENED HEARTS

In replying to the question, "What is needed to help the individual church member become effective as a soul-winner?" Dr. Lee Roberson, pastor of the Highland Park Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, replied, "Leadership. I would like to say that Christians need training, but this is not true. Some Christians are well trained, but still they do nothing. The best soul-winners in most churches are untrained and uneducated, yet they have burdened, burning hearts. Therefore, I would have to say that evangelism in the local church must begin with the pastor. The pastor must be used of God to inspire others to win souls.

PRAYER THOUGHT

May God forbid that we should present our gifts and withhold ourselves.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Scripture Reading—Amos 4:4

FULL TREASURE ROOMS

To His children God says, 'My child, I still have windows n Heaven. They are yet in ser-ice. The bolts slide as easily as f old. The hinges have not rown rusty. I would rather ling them open and pour forth opious blessings than to keep hem shut and hold back bless-ngs. The treasure rooms are till bursting with gifts. The ocks on the windows are not on My side. They are on your side. Prove Me now. Fulfill the con-litions on your side. Give me a hance."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's command and promises have not been rescinded: 'Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse . . . and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Malachi 3:10).

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Scripture Reading—Ruth 4:4

SAY SO

"Ah, Mr. Spurgeon," joyously said an old woman to the famous preacher, "if Jesus Christ saves me, He shall never hear the last of this!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's directive is plain: "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so" (Psalm 107:2).

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

TINY PUSHES

Said Helen Keller, "I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only with the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny shoves of each honest worker."

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we are faithful in small things, we are not small Christians.

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Yes, our churches do have a lot of good, Christian young people in them. But, how about those we have lost? It is not always easy to work with young people (nor is it always the church's fault that they leave); often rewards cannot be seen immediately (sometimes they never are). But young people need to know they are cared about. Each young person is unique and special; each should be treated that way. They can manage themselves better if they see how they fit into the whole. Sure, they will make mistakes, but they can triumph if they will stay in harmony with the Creator.

Concluding his remarks at the Annual Boy Scout Motivation Dinner and Meeting in February, H. M. "Smoky" Eggers related a story about a young boy who was riding with a gentleman through a city. When the man did not immediately "go" when the stoplight turned green, the lad said, "Mister, you might as well go. The light ain't gonna get no greener!"

I have asked myself many times since then, just what **are** we waiting for? Don't we care? Do we not want others to experience the joy of knowing Jesus? Why do we not feel the adventure, the excitement, the challenge of being involved with people, of doing what God wants us to do? God **can** make a difference in the lives of many of the people we know—young people and adults.

What are we waiting for?

". . . Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35).

What are we waiting for?

"The light ain't gonna get no greener!"

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 6)

The Rev. Lloyd Vernon was the first president of Mount Olive College, serving during the years 1952-54. He died on December 21, 1980, at the age of eighty-six.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT SAINT PAUL CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, on Sunday, March 15, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Joe Griffith.

ATTENTION VICE PRESIDENTS

The Eastern District Spring Convention will be held at Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Grantsboro, North Carolina, on March 19. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the convention starting at 10 a.m. Please encourage your members to attend.

Mrs. Florine G. Slaughter

NEWS & NOTES

Youth Rally of Piedmont Conference to Meet

The Youth Rally of the Piedmont Conference will meet on Saturday, March 14, 1981, at the Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina.

Dinner will be provided by the host church. The pastor, the Rev. McDonal Bennett, and the congregation wish to encourage all the churches of the Piedmont Conference to support the youth program. The program will begin at noon. All youth directors, pastors, and youth are invited to attend.

Revival Services to Be Held at Bethany Church

Revival services will be held at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina, March 16 through March 20, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Marvin Waters of Pinetown will be the evangelist for the week. In addition to gospel preaching, there will be special music each evening. A very cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

Mission Sunday At Gum Swamp Church

The Rev. Joe Ingram, director of Foreign Missions, will be the guest speaker on March 15, at 11, during the morning worship service at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Services to Be Held at Friendship Church

Revival services will be held at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, North Carolina, March 16 through March 21. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Clyde W. Cox will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Walter Reynolds is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Auxiliary Achieves A-1 Status

The Ladies Auxiliary of Sound View Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, worked very hard to achieve an A-1 status in 1980. The ladies worked on their chart monthly, doing all that was required. Mrs. Frances Deaver was in charge of taking care of the chart and the women are quite appreciative of all she did. There are 26 ladies in the auxiliary.

Sound View church is in the Eastern Conference. The Rev. Francis Garner serves as pastor.

Cape Fear Union Meeting At Wooten's Chapel Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Garner, North Carolina, on March 28, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. T. C. Farmer
—Welcome, the Rev. J. B. Caton
—Response, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. W. A. Martin
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Reports of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. L. B. Woodall Jr.
Secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley

Revival Services to Be Held at Kenly Church

Revival services will be held at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina, March 16 through March 20. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m., with the Rev. Ray Wells, pastor of the Marsh Swamp church, Sims, as the evangelist. There will be good gospel singing and preaching enjoyed by everyone attending. The Rev. James V. Joyner is pastor of the church.

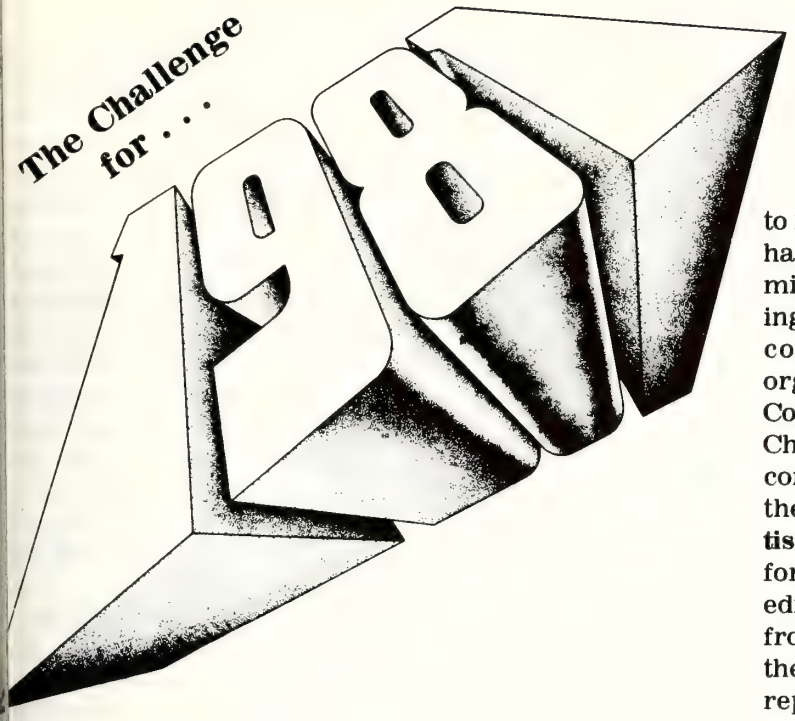
Eastern Conference Youth To Meet

The Eastern Conference Youth Convention will be March 14, at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina.

Black Jack Church to Have Revival Services

Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Greenville, North Carolina, will be having revival services March 15 through March 20. On Sunday night, the service will begin at 7; and Monday through Friday nights, the services will begin at 7:30. The Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, a former pastor, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music each evening. A children's church is provided for preschoolers. The Rev. Cedric Pierce is pastor of the church.

(Continued on Page 11)



When we turned the calendar from 1980 to 1981, we were reminded that another year had passed into history and eternity. One might wonder how we as a church did during that time. Below you will find a table comparing membership figures for organizations in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches for 1979 and 1980. (Figures were compiled from the 1980 and 1981 editions of the **Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,** so they reflect totals for July 1, 1978—June 30, 1979, from the 1980 edition, and July 1, 1979—June 30, 1980, from the 1981 volume. Ninety-two percent of the churches in the State Convention reported in the 1980 edition; ninety percent reported in the 1981 volume).

MEMBERSHIP

Conference	Church		Sunday School		League		YFA		AFC		WA		LL	
	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980
Albemarle	2117	1701	1142	986	108	101	86	52	50	59	225	177	39	35
Cape Fear	4687	4692	3255	3123	22	25	241	235	203	213	550	554	56	64
Central	7863	7656	5018	4791	243	241	260	218	254	198	1005	944	304	219
Eastern	10658	10232	6915	6588	265	229	403	368	366	357	1414	1298	127	86
Pee Dee	1703	1733	1722	1579	320	320	176	181	56	57	165	132	56	32
Piedmont	1102	1152	980	1042	60	34	86	48	24	21	170	187	23	11
Western	8626	8934	5951	6304	90	128	490	516	306	348	1119	1179	187	210
Total	36756	36100	24983	24413	1108	1078	1742	1618	1259	1253	4648	4471	792	657
NET LOSS		656		570		30		124		6		177		135

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

alvary Church to Have evival Services

Revival services will be held t Calvary Free Will Baptist hurch, Wilson, North arolina, March 16 through larch 20. The Rev. W. S. Burns ill be the guest evangelist. rayer rooms will open at 7:10 m. The services will start at 30 p.m. A nursery will be proded. Everyone is invited to atnd.

evival Services to Be eld at Grimsley Church

Revival services will be held the Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, Greene County, March 16 through March 20. The Rev. Robert May will be the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:45 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services. The Rev. Donald Fader is pastor of the church.

ATTENTION

Western Conference Ministers

The Western Conference Ministers Fellowship will meet on March 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church. A program of special interest is planned. The topic, "Problems That Are Confronting Us" will be discussed. All Ministers of the Western Conference are invited to attend.

Thank you very much.

Charles Renfrow, *Secretary*
Ministers Fellowship

If a sermon pricks your conscience, it must have some good points.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 22

SIGNS OF THE END

Lesson Text: Matthew 23:37—24:14
Memory Verse: Matthew 24:35

I. INTRODUCTION

A young naval officer who had accompanied Captain Cook in his search for the Northwest Passage was sent on a mission on land. Suddenly a violent Arctic blizzard struck the party, and the young officer, inexperienced in the Arctic, proposed that the party pitch camp and wait out the storm. A Swedish naturalist, who was a member of the party, argued otherwise. "I have had much more experience in the Arctic than you," he said. "Our only hope is to get back to the ship as quickly as we can."

"But we are cold and it is getting colder," protested the officer. "We shall surely freeze if we try to get back."

"We will certainly freeze if we stay here," responded the Swede. "The only way to keep warm is to keep moving. Our only hope is to just keep walking, one step at a time, exhausted though we are."

Heeding the advice, the exploration party struck out on its return journey and finally made its way back to the safety of the ship. Perseverance was their salvation.

Is not all of life like this? Only he who "shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

In last Sunday's lesson Jesus was involved in a verbal sparring match with the religious leaders in Jerusalem. They were unable to hold their own against Him and were effectively silenced. Jesus then turned to the multitudes and His disciples and unleashed a scathing denunciation of the scribes and Pharisees. They were condemned as self-righteous hypocrites who caused the people to stumble. (See Matthew 23:1-36.) Our lesson today begins with the closing verses of Chapter 23, in which Jesus began to lament over the fate of Jerusalem.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Bible text for today is taken from two chapters, Matthew 23 and 24. The first portion comes at the end of Chapter 23. It is obvious that the time of the Crucifixion is drawing near, and the closing words of this chapter show how the heart of God is broken over the condition in Jerusalem. Jesus knows the great impact of the Pharisees and false religions generally on the city. Jesus had offered Himself to the city as the Messiah and the King of the Jews, but they had rejected Him. Knowing the doom that awaited this people, it is no wonder that He lamented over the city.

B. The second section of our text comes from Matthew 24, which is part of the Olivet discourse. It is called this because it was delivered there. This is one of the four major discourses delivered by Jesus when He was here on earth, and was given to answer three questions which the disciples asked. Jesus did not separate His answers to the questions, so yo must be careful to take eac statement that He made an apply it to the right question o you can come away from thi discourse with some wron answers.

C. As we study the lesson, w will look first at the lament c Jesus over Jerusalem, then th going away of Jesus with Hi disciples to the Mount of Olive where they asked the thre great questions, and th answers that Jesus gave to th questions.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Disturbing events in th world during the past twelv months, especially in the Nea East, have caused great con cern for both Christians an non-Christians. Nations hav teetered on the verge of wa with their neighbors; indeed some have already engaged i armed conflict. Internationa laws governing relationshi with other nations have bee grossly ignored by some cour tries. Instead of engaging i disarmament, nations hav broadened their budgets to in clude still further sophisticate weaponry. One is reminded c conditions which existed be tween nations prior to Worl War II.

B. None of us knows what th future holds except as God' Word has given us propheti guidelines. We do not kno when Jesus will return to tak His Bride out of the trouble world, but we know He *is* com ing. Our place is to be prepare for the future to the best of ou ability, and while we prepar ourselves we must, with ur shaken faith, face the futur with God.

—The Advanced Quarterl (F.W.B.

March Is Foreign Missions Month

Scouting Motivation Dinner Held

Those present at the Annual Boy Scout Motivation Dinner and Meeting held Thursday night, February 26, in Kinston, learned of the significant and meaningful relationship that exists between the Boy Scouts of America and the ,000 Baptist churches who charter Scouting rograms.

Some people wonder why the Scouting program is still in existence, why it is still so live. Mr. John Bush, an official of the East Carolina Council of the BSA, said that a lot of hings have changed since 1910 when the couting program began. In those days people ere concerned about how to make a horse top; today attention is placed on computers nd computer science. Although this is true, Ir. Bush related that the principles of one's uty to God and country have not changed. The act that the Scouting program is a volunteer rganization has also attributed to its success.

Speaking at the meeting, the Rev. David harles Hansley related that it is our privilege o work with both the Boy Scouts of America nd the Association of Baptists for Scouting ABS). The ABS has been in existence for over twenty years. The Association is made up of concerned Baptist churchmen who are interested in the total mission of the Church, and it offers help for youth through the Scouting program. By participating in the ABS the State Convention is afforded the opportunity to speak directly to the National Boy Scout Council. Mr. Hansley pointed out that our participation would not be possible without the assistance that has been given us by H. M. "Smoky" Eggers, the Executive Director of ABS.



The Rev. David C. Hansley presented "Smoky" Eggers a citation in recognition of the assistance he has given Free Will Baptists and Scouting. Pictured left to right are "Smoky" Eggers, Mr. Hansley, and John Bush.

Mr. Eggers challenged the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists to take a lead in the "Major Baptist Emphasis" thrust planned for 1982-83. To accept such a challenge, it must be realized that Scouting can make—does make—a difference in the lives of young people and adults; the church is helped in the process. "It is amazing what the right person can do in the lives of young people. Often work must be done one minute at the time, for one minute can make the difference between an individual being a hero and a hoodlum."

If the State Convention is to be a blue ribbon council, existing units have to be strengthened; new units must be started.

The Rev. Scott Sowers was named temporary chairman of the Commission on Scouting at the meeting. The Commission will meet again on Tuesday, March 17, at the Holiday Inn in Kinston at 6:30 p.m. All members of the Commission are encouraged to attend.



"Smoky" Eggers gave the Revs. David C. Hansley and rank Crary certificates which relate that both men have ceived the "Good Shepherd" award. Pictured left to right e Mr. Hansley, "Smoky" Eggers, and Mr. Crary.

A Look at Free Will Baptist Churches and Scouting . . .

According to reports turned in at the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches in 1980, 13 churches sponsor scout troops. Reports indicate the sponsorship of 7 Cub packs consisting of over 47 members, 6 Boy Scout troops comprised of 90 boys, 1 Brownie troop with 28 girls, and 5 Girl Scout troops with a membership totaling 79 girls.

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

THANK YOU, LORD, FOR WARM DAYS



A few warm days are a welcomed relief after the cold winter. We have several very young children on campus now and it's amazing what a pile of sand can do. Dreams become reality with a toy dump truck and sand castles. Do you ever wish life could be so simple again?

Sand castles, like that of the foolish man who built his house on the sand, fall flat. Dream houses must have a solid foundation and sturdy walls if they are to be lasting. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home offers that solid-rock foundation, the sturdy, secure walls, the loving mother and father image, that our children have been robbed of.

More than 700 children have built upon that solid foundation. Sand castles have become solid marriages, homes and families. We are in the business of helping people build lives that last!

TARBORO JUNIOR CHURCH IS ACTIVE

The Tarboro First Free Will Baptist Junior Church has gotten off to a very good start this year. Their goal for January was 40 children present for the 11 a.m. worship hour. On February 22, they went over their goal with 41 present. The junior church is for children 4 to 11 years old. The Bible is taught on a level they can understand, using puppets, pictures, and flannelgraph. The Bible is read by those who are old enough to read it.

In January, the boy or girl that brought a visitor was crowned king or queen for that Sunday. Their picture was taken and put on the bulletin board. On February 13, they had a Valentine Party and the children who brought the most visitors were crowned king and queen. These were kings Kevin Cobb and Paula Hyman and queens Jennifer Hathaway and Lisa Hyman. The older junior church members are writing letters to the once hostages. They also visited the Modern Care Rest Home. They learned and recited Bible verses, sang songs, and before leaving, they gave out Valentines to the patients there. For the month of March, there will be a kite flying contest.

It is so important that children be trained while they are young, because they will be the church of tomorrow. The pastor, the Rev. O. B. Jones, supports the junior church in any way he can, with lots of praise and ideas, which are used gratefully. The director of the junior church is Mrs. Alice Holland; assistant director Mr. Lynn Cale; teacher, Mrs Mary Savage. These are very dedicated people who love the Lord and see the need to teach the children to love and serve the Lord while they are young

News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey



DOOR OF OPPORTUNITY

The door to the new "State Cottage for the Retired" is waiting to be opened. Our pastors and their wives, church members who have reached retirement age and denominational workers are waiting. A door of great opportunity stands before us.

On a recent visit to a sister denomination's rest home, Board President Walter Sutton, and Executive Director Stewart Humphrey, were told that the rest home program operated by their church had been a great blessing to all their people. Many opportunities to provide human services for the elderly lay before individuals, groups, and especially, Christian organizations who are willing to engage themselves in a ministry to retired people.

"State Cottage for the Retired" will offer care for the person who needs some assistance in their daily routine. They will care for their own clothes, rooms and personal needs; however, they may need assistance with baths or with their medication.

Gifts, large and small, are being sought for the renovation and equipping of the cottage. Our churches are urged to send at least $2 per member for this project.

ANOTHER QUESTION AND ANSWER

HOW SOON COULD THE "STATE COTTAGE FOR THE RETIRED" BE OPERATIONAL: Assuming that the 40-45,000 dollars needed for renovation and equipping would be raised within the next 4 or 5 months, opening day could be as early as December, 1981. We would like to have a grand opening during Retirement Homes Month, January 1982.

OPTIMISTS – UNITE!

(Continued from Page 5)

to his bugler boy and said, "Son, we are being defeated. All our men will be killed. We are going to lose the battle for sure unless we can pull back, regroup, and make some new plans. Son, quickly blow a retreat for our men."

The bugler boy looked up and said, "Sir, you never taught me a retreat." Napoleon again said, "Son, blow a retreat!" "Do the best you can." Tears streamed down his cheeks as he said, "Sir, I do not know any retreat. All I know to do is to blow a charge." But with tearful eyes, he held the trumpet to his lips and, try as he may, all he could blow was a charge. When he blew that charge, Napoleon's forces said, "Good night! We must have some recruits coming up from the rear to join us, some fresh blood." When that boy blew the charge, the enemy forces said, "Wow, they must have some new men coming up. We had better run."

They ran and Napoleon's forces charged and the victory came. Why? Because one bugler boy never learned to blow a retreat. God help us to be optimists regarding our **PURPOSE** – regarding our **PROGRAM.** To be optimistic in our **PLANNING.** To demonstrate that optimism in our **PREACHING.** To **PRAY** with optimism . . . knowing the whole time that the **POWER** available to us is the power of the One whose truth marches on—whose Kingdom endures forever! God help us to be united and excited and optimistic about doing our part in the work of His Kingdom.

To that end and through His **POWER,** let us **UNITE!**

---

[1]George Arthur Buttrick (ed.), **The Interpreter's Bible** (1956), VI, Abingdon Press, New York, pp. 1053-1075.

[2]Elton Trueblood, **The Incendiary Fellowship,** Harper and Row, New York, 1967, p. 90.

[3]James Sullivan, "The Responsible Church," Sermon preached at the 1980 Evangelism Conference of the Southern Baptist Convention, Greensboro, North Carolina.

[4]David Haney, "En Route on the Journey," **World Mission Journal,** published by The Brotherhood Commission, SBC., (May, 1980).

[5]Erma Bombeck, Field Newspaper Syndicate, date published is unknown. The article is entitled, "On Smiling in Church."

[6]G. Ray Jordan, **You Can Preach,** Fleming H. Revell Company, New York, 1951, p. 209.

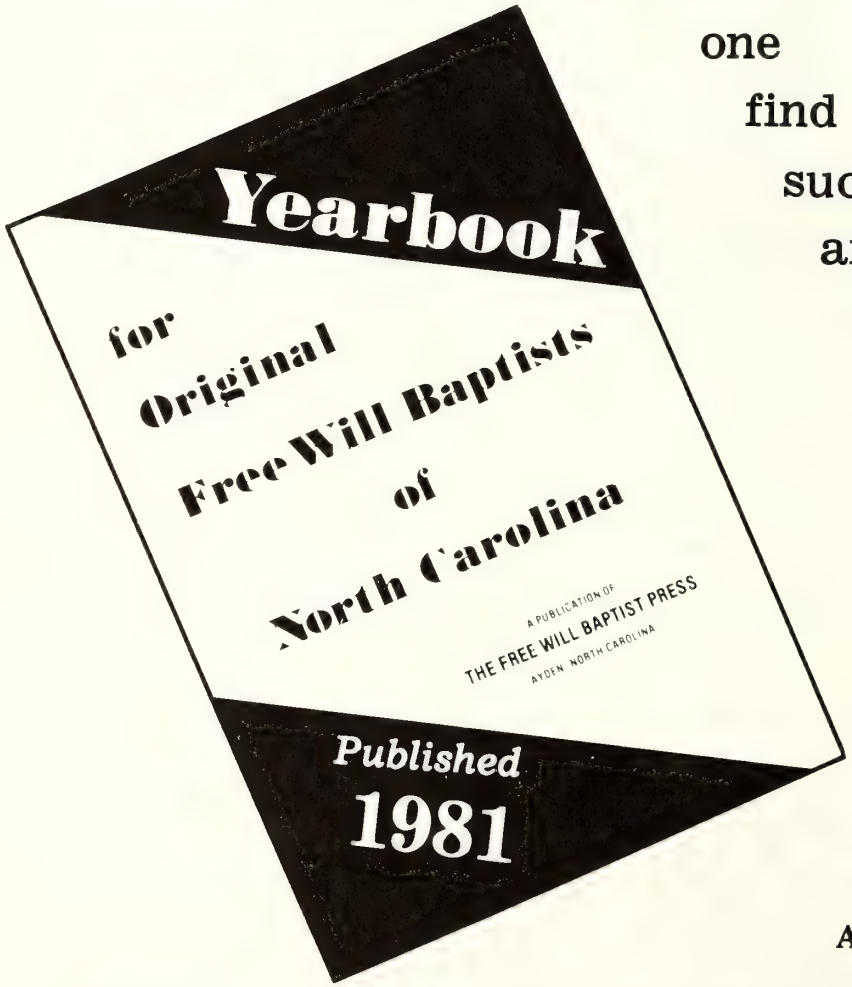
The above sermon was delivered by the Rev. Marvin Waters at the 1980 State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Available Soon

Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina

1980-81 Edition

This publication provides a comprehensive overview of denominational information and activities. Nowhere else can one find such an all-inclusive volume.

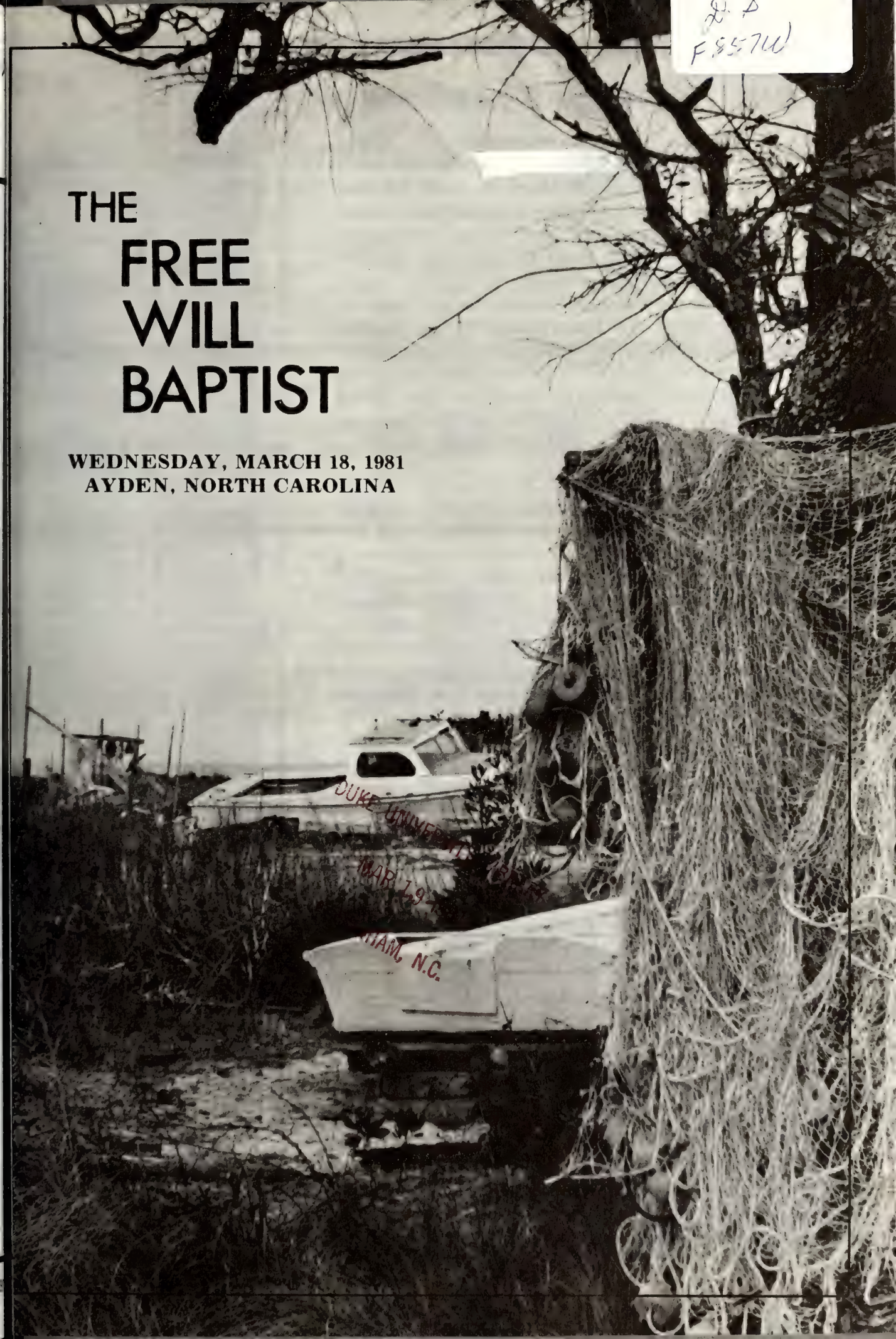


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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



DUKE UNIVERSITY
MAR 19
HAM, N.C.

It's Time We Look at Ourselves

Maybe people are moving to areas where Original Free Will Baptist churches have not been established. It could be that building costs are spiraling at such rates that churches can not build adequate facilities. People may be satisfied to just turn their television sets on each week—some say Americans have "come of age"; they "no longer need" the church. Energy costs might be keeping people home. Maybe churches are just cleaning house; in the process inactive members are being "swept" aside. It could be that we are not ministering to the needs of people; no,—

It has been a week now since we tallied the figures from the 1981 **Yearbook;** it has taken seven days to muster the courage to really look at this matter. (See Page 4 for a table comparing the membership figures for the years 1979 and 1980.) I have shown the results to ministers and laymen. Some thought that next year would probably be worse; many shook their heads in disbelief. It was expected that our membership might drop in one or two areas, but I must ask why we lost members in every program. Yes, two percent of those Original Free Will Baptist churches reporting last year did not report this year to the State Convention or their conference in the fall. And it is possible we might have "held our own" if they had reported. ("Holding our own" is nothing to brag about either.) But the fact remains, we can only work with the figures we do have.

It is time we look at ourselves and our situation. We need to rise up with a single purpose in mind. If we are following Jesus we are to be "fishers of men," not keepers of an aquarium! We must prepare ourselves by spending time in prayer and Bible study. We must fish in the roughest of all waters, for the seas will seldom calm, and the world will not easily take to our message. Of course, we can become hardier, and better fishermen once we have toughened a little. (No, we are not to turn our eyes from the evils that are around us.) When I look at last year's figures I wonder if we are really fishing? If we are, we had better mend our nets; if

(Continued on Page 14)

Cover Photo by Carolyn Burress

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Monday—Saturday.

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Not Everybody But Somebody

BUT I can't help everybody!" When this hoariest of excuses for doing nothing is exhumed from mothballs, I usually quote Bob Pierce, "No, but you can help somebody!" Sometimes I follow that up with encouragement to start small and do something rather than sit immobilized by the magnitude of the task. I tell how important it is for each of us to take out a bucketful, and so on.

However, I am afraid that quick retorts may not evoke the desired response. I know they don't in me.

Besides, some of the people who say, "I can't help everybody!" are not alibiing but lamenting. They say it out of frustration and despair because they **are** helping someone, often many someones, and the undone task remains greater than the done. They seem never to gain on it. Far from being underwhelmed (as is, unfortunately, sometimes the case), they are overwhelmed, submerged, left gasping for breath in a great sea of need. No answer seems big enough.

Where does individual responsibility begin? And end?

I get considerable help on this when I look at the way Jesus ministered. He, too, lived in a sea of need. In that hot, dusty land, blindness was common. Leprosy was a feared scourge. Sickness, hunger and sorrow abounded. Yet Jesus did not heal all the sick, feed all the hungry, raise all the dead. In His time and place, there were blind who never saw, lame who never leaped, bed-ridden who never walked, lepers who were never cleansed.

How many widows' sons were buried with no compassionate intervention? How many mothers-in-law never recovered from their fevers? How many wanderers in their wrong minds were never restored? How many epileptic or palsied children were never freed?

Surely Jesus knew He was only scratching the surface of need. How did He live with that knowledge? Theologians may provide additional perspectives, but a fact that I find personally instructive is this: In the gospel accounts **Jesus never turned away anyone who came within the scope of His awareness and ability to help.**

Of course, there was no limit on His power or ability, as there is on mine. But some had to fight for His attention—persisting their way through a cordon of protective disciples. Even when He thought to limit His ministry to "the house of Israel," a Canaanite woman, pleading in behalf of her daughter, breached His defenses. Insisting upon crumbs for her daughter, she received, instead, wholeness.

Scope of awareness. It was this which placed an inescapable compulsion upon Him, and which places it upon us. When I see, when I hear, when I know, then something happens to me that has not happened before. It is then that the problem, the concern becomes mine.

When the knock comes to **my** door.
When the empty hand reaches toward **me.**
When the eyes look into **my** eyes.

Then I have to do something or surrender some piece of my Christian credibility. It is as simple as that.

And as complex as that. For the scope of our awareness is wider now than it was in the days of Jesus, wider even than it was 10 years ago. There is still need in the world that we do not know about. But when a major tragedy strikes, we generally are informed by the time of the evening news. Nowadays, the small

Turn the Page



tragedy is more likely to be what we hear about last. The abandoned parent in a nursing home on the other side of town; the forgotten inmate of a prison just 15 minutes away; the neighbor whose name we never took time to learn; the people we see every day who carry unsuspected crushing burdens.

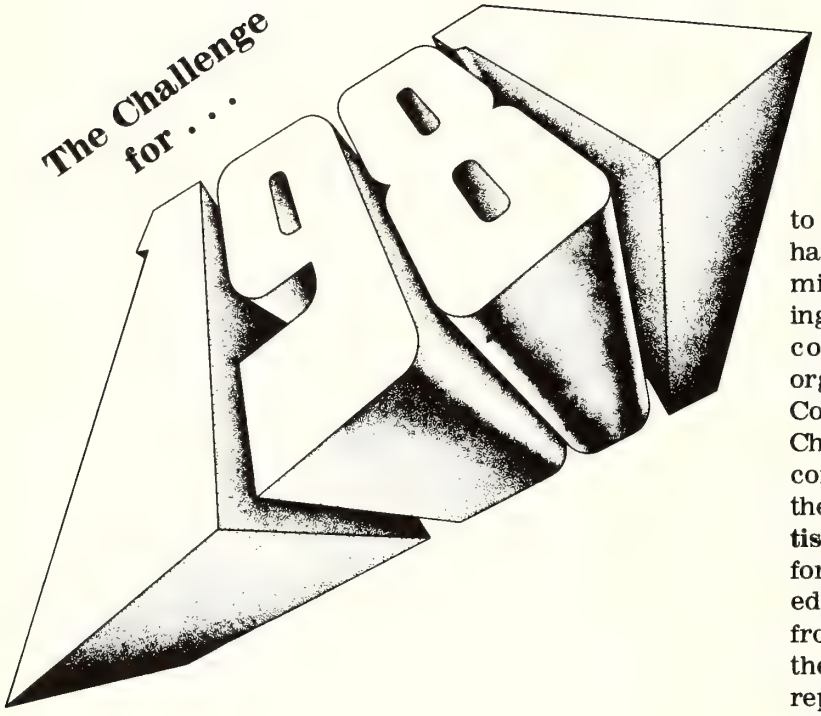
Awareness, for us, is an ability that can be cultivated. We hear what we need to hear, what we want to hear, in the same way that a mother immediately catches the first cry of her awakening baby.

There are, sad to say, those who are afraid they **will** hear something, who avert their eyes lest they see something. How lonely to walk the streets of life, afraid to look up, afraid of what might be seen in even a fleeting glance at another face.

We avert not only our eyes but our hearts, lest some compulsion leap across the gap and forever bind us together. For, from even our small experience, we know deep down that having seen, we cannot ever again unsee. Having heard, we will never again be able to unhear.

And unless conscience is dead, we will have to act. "For God so loved the world that He gave . . . ." That is the penalty, and the incomparable reward, for being a follower of His Son.—Stan Mooneyham

Reprinted with permission from **World Vision** magazine (March, 1981).



When we turned the calendar from 1980 to 1981, we were reminded that another year had passed into history and eternity. One might wonder how we as a church did during that time. Below you will find a table comparing membership figures for organizations in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches for 1979 and 1980. (Figures were compiled from the 1980 and 1981 editions of the **Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,** so they reflect totals for July 1, 1978—June 30, 1979, from the 1980 edition; and July 1, 1979—June 30, 1980, from the 1981 volume. Ninety-two percent of the churches in the State Convention reported in the 1980 edition; ninety percent reported in the 1981 volume.)

MEMBERSHIP														
Conference	Church		Sunday School		League		YFA		AFC		WA		LL	
	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980
Albemarle	2117	1701	1142	986	108	101	86	52	50	59	225	177	39	35
Cape Fear	4687	4692	3255	3123	22	25	241	235	203	213	550	554	56	64
Central	7863	7656	5018	4791	243	241	260	218	254	198	1005	944	304	219
Eastern	10658	10232	6915	6588	265	229	403	368	366	357	1414	1298	127	86
Pee Dee	1703	1733	1722	1579	320	320	176	181	56	57	165	132	56	32
Piedmont	1102	1152	980	1042	60	34	86	48	24	21	170	187	23	11
Western	8626	8934	5951	6304	90	128	490	516	306	348	1119	1179	187	210
Total	36756	36100	24983	24413	1108	1078	1742	1618	1259	1253	4648	4471	792	657
NET LOSS		656		570		30		124		6		177		135

Reflections in my mirror

POTENTIAL

submitted by Linwood Ipock Jr.

Two caterpillars were struggling through the grass one day when a beautiful butterfly soared overhead. One nudged the other and remarked, "You couldn't get me up in one of those things for a million dollars!"

Wow! One of these days, he'll be surprised! I love that little story and laugh every time I hear it. I love it because it's going to have a happy ending. That caterpillar will pass through metamorphosis and soon be soaring with the best of them.

But I like that story for another reason, too. It makes me think how many of us are struggling through the tall grass with our potential hidden, when we should be passing through our own metamorphoses. We should be identifying our potential, developing the gifts and talents we possess rather than denying their existence. 1 Peter 4:10, 11 says, "As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever, speaks, let him speak, as it were the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

These verses speak to us in a special way. They remind us that we have a responsibility to use our gifts, but more importantly, that we use them to glorify our God.

Why do so many abilities lie dormant? Why are entire lifetimes spent in an embryonic state of development? It's because of the failure to realize that our abilities, great and small, are from the Lord and that those many and varied gifts we have been given are intended to enrich our lives as well as the lives of those around us.

It doesn't matter what your gift is; what matters is that you use it to the glory of the Lord! Talk to the Lord in prayer; ask Him to reveal your special abilities and to guide you as you use your potential.

"Dear Father, help me recognize my potential. Let me use the gifts you have given me for Your honor and glory. Guide me as I contribute to the world in which You have placed me. Amen."

PHOEBE LAMBETH

P.S. Why not join that little caterpillar, get off the ground and go soaring? The view will be great!

(C 1980, Phoebe Lambeth)

HOME MISSIONS REPORT

by
Taylor Hill

My illness has caused us to become bogged down in reporting to our people; we are now in the process of recuperating in that respect. God willing, we will have reports coming out again just as fast as we can get them.

We want our people to know that things are getting along normally and our business is being taken care of as usual. We do want to urge you to remain faithful to the State Home Missions because our future depends upon it.

We thank God and you for standing by us.

Have you renewed your subscription for **The Free Will Baptist?**

COMING EVENTS

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 19—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro, North Carolina; registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with the convention starting at 10 a.m.

March 21—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention, Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina

March 22—Foreign Missions Telethon

March 28—Cape Fear Union Meeting, Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Garner, North Carolina, beginning at 10 a.m.

March 28—Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference, Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Albertson, North Carolina; at 10 a.m.

March 29—Second Union of Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, 3 p.m., Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina

March 29—Mount Olive College Sunday in Local Churches

March 29—Fourth Union of Central District, Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina, 9:45 a.m.

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 4—Alumni Day at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina; annual banquet at 5:30 p.m. on the downtown campus



SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Scripture Reading – Psalm 15:1, 2

A GENTLEMAN'S WORD

In 1856, David Livingstone faced a grave peril in Africa. He was passing through the wild country of the native chief Mburuma. The chief was hostile and had been seeking to rouse the countryside against the white man's expedition. Reports had come to Livingstone that natives had been seen creeping toward the camp!

Alone in his tent, Livingstone opened his Bible and read the promise on which he had staked his life so often. Then he wrote in his diary:

"January 14, 1856. Evening. Felt much turmoil of spirit in prospect of having all my plans for welfare of this great region knocked on the head by savages tomorrow. But Jesus said, 'All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations . . . and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.'

"This is the word of a gentleman of the most strict and sacred honour, so that's the end of fear. I will not cross furtively tonight as I intended. Nay, verily, I shall take observations for latitude and longtitude tonight, though they may be the last. I feel quite calm now, thank God!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me (Psalm 23:4).

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 12:2

ATTIRED IN HIS BEST

In a group of ministers, a dear friend of mine related an occurrence which deeply touched me and others, too. He said, "It is with difficulty that I relate an incident which is etched indelibly upon the scroll of memory. My father, a minister, was hospitalized when he became critically ill. On visiting him one day, I found him immaculately dressed in his best suit.

" 'Why, Dad!' I said. 'What does this mean? You are ill. Put on your pajamas and get back in bed.'

"Dad said, 'Son, I'm going home! I'm going to my heavenly home!'

"He wanted to appear in the presence of his Lord attired in his best."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Up to the beautiful mansions above, Gathering home! gathering home!
Safe in the arms of His infinite love, The dear ones are gathering home.
Gathering home! Gathering home! Never to sorrow more, never to roam,
Gathering home! Gathering home! God's children are gathering home!

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture Reading – Psalm 140:1-3

ALCOHOLIC PUSHERS

In addressing the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, Art Linkletter said. "We don't have a drug problem primarily at all. We have a *people problem*—a sick society. Christ is the only real answer. With Christ, youths will have a friend who will stay with them and fill the emptiness which so often leads to experimentation in drugs."

Linkletter referred to alcohol "as a drug problem more dangerous than heroin in its effect on the human body and the lives it takes.

"While visiting in a home of a celebrity," said Linkletter, "I was offered a cocktail. Instantly, I said, 'I didn't know you were a *pusher!*"

"The celebrity remonstrated with me heatedly, but I held to my position, saying, 'You are no different from the drug pusher who tries to push his wares on the people he meets.' "

Linkletter spoke with a tear in his heart, for his beautiful daughter, while tripping on LSD, plummeted from an upstairs window to her death!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the spirit (Ephesians 5:17, 18).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 65:17

DESTINED TO EXTINCTION

Bertrand Russell said, "Man is the product of causes. His origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs, are but the outcome of accidental collocations of atoms. No heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling, can preserve an individual life beyond the grave. All the labors

f all the ages, all the devotion, ll the inspiration, and all the oonday brightness of human enius are destined to extinction in the fast death of the olar system. The whole temple f man's achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the lebris of a universe in ruins. All hese things are beyond dispute, so nearly certain that no hilosophy which rejects them an hope to stand!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How dismal and dreary is the uture to those who do not elieve in God and the revelaion He has given in His eternal Vord. His prophetic Word is "a ight that shineth in a dark lace, until the day dawn" (2 eter 1:19).

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

"I MISSED OUT"

Conrad S. Jensen, retired leputy inspector of the New Zork Police Department, said, 'I've missed out on life. At east that is what many of my ssociates have said, and it's rue in a way. I've missed out n a lot of things.

"First of all, I missed coming rom a broken home. I missed aving an alcoholic for a father r an unfaithful woman for a nother. I missed growing up as juvenile delinquent. I missed eing a 'regular guy' or 'one of he boys' and getting into troule with them. I missed being a runk, a dope addict or a legenerate.

"By the grace of God, I missed an unhappy marriage eading to divorce. I missed the eartbreak of having our two hildren bring disgrace and hame to our home.

"I missed the misery, during ver a quarter of a century in olice work in New York City, f being tainted and destroyed y the corruption that confronts very policeman in America.

"Ours was a Christian home with emphasis placed on Christian living. Throughout my school days, and then in the business world for a time, I tried to live my convictions as a child of God. Surrounded by those who found pleasure in worldly pursuits, my Christian stand seemed to be out of place and often caused them to remark that I was missing out on a lot of things, and thank God for it!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:1-3).

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture Reading—Psalm 72:19

AMEN! AMEN! AMEN!

As the life of Daniel Webster was ebbing to its close, the attending physician asked, "May I quote the verse of a great hymn to you?"

"Do," feebly said the dying statesman.

The physician recited with feeling:

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains!

As he concluded the stanza, Webster exclaimed, "Amen! Amen! Amen!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Though the preaching of the cross is "unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness" (1 Corinthians 1:23), *all who have experienced its heart-transforming and character-ennobling power can exclaim:*

When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 5:3

ONLY A BIRD

Some years ago a transatlantic jet airliner circled over Boston airport, ready to land. The plane didn't make it! While scores of horrified persons watched, the huge plane went out of control and slammed into the ground. More than one hundred people died in that flaming crash!

Detectives examined every bit of wreckage in an effort to reconstruct the tragedy. At last they announced their findings. The crash had been caused by a bird, probably a sea gull. It had been sucked into the jet engine, causing the craft to go out of control.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What havoc small things can work! Beware of so-called little sins: "Take . . . the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines . . . our . . . tender grapes" (Song of Solomon 2:15).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Ed Fordham announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral work. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted by writing to him at 821 Chattawka Lane, New Bern, North Carolina 28560; phone 637-9420.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1980

RECEIPTS

NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Albemarle District Convention	$ 143.27
Aspen Grove	26.75
Bethany	45.00
Bethel (Johnston)	75.00
Beulaville	50.00
Black Jack	1,176.94
Cape Fear District Convention	250.00
Central District Auxiliary Convention	29.84
Christian Service Fund	119.76
Core Creek	113.60
Daniels Chapel	3.00
Dawson's Grove	40.00
Dilda's Grove	37.78
Edgewood	10.00
Elm Grove	105.50
Fellowship (Wilson)	10.00
Free Union (Greene)	51.78
Free Union (Nash)	5.40
Fremont	18.75
Friendship (Johnston)	3.00
Friendship (Greene)	238.55
Grimsley	3.00
Goldsboro, First	9.90
Gum Swamp	7.50
Hickory Grove	25.00
Holly Springs (Johnston)	31.77
Howell Swamp	23.00
Hopewell	20.00
Hull Road	6.00
Hugo	28.60
Jackson Heights	4.50
Johnston Union	20.00
King's Cross Roads	34.30
Kinston, First	20.00
Kenly	75.00
LaGrange	39.00
Lee's Chapel	100.00
Little Creek	20.00
Marlboro	29.62
Marsh Swamp	20.00
Micro	50.00
Milbournie	3.85
Oak Grove (Cape Fear)	20.00
Ormondsville	25.00
Pine Level	75.00
Piney Grove (Johnston)	23.00
Pleasant Hill (Wayne)	50.00
Pleasant Plain	20.00
Reedy Branch	15.00
Rose Hill	15.00
Sandy Plain	3.60
Saratoga	47.00
Shady Grove	3.60
Smithfield, First	20.00
Sound View	5.00
Spring Branch	20.00
Spring Hill	20.00
St. Mary's (New Bern)	20.00
St. Mary's (Wilson)	222.50
Stancil's Chapel	6.00
Tarboro, First	65.00
Unity, Durham	6.00
Union Grove	26.75
Wardens Grove	30.00
Western District Convention	223.62
Whaley's Chapel	40.00
White Oak Grove	3.00
Wintergreen	24.50
Winterville	80.00
Winterville YWA	15.00
Total	$ 4,249.53

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Albemarle Union	$ 17.12
Free Union	20.00
Malachi's Chapel	100.00
Mount Zion Sunday School	100.00
Sidney	26.94
Union Chapel	25.16
Total	$ 289.22

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove, League	$ 600.00
Aspen Grove, Sunday School Class	25.00
Bethany	475.00
Mr. R. E. Bynum, Saratoga	50.00
Daniels Chapel	250.00
Edgewood	30.00
Friendship	445.66
Greenville, First	225.00
Greenville, WA	20.00
Gum Swamp, WA	50.00
Howell Swamp	40.17
King's Cross Roads	1,116.04
Owens Chapel	40.17
Reedy Branch	1,200.00
Reedy Branch Fidelis Men's Class	20.00
Rocky Mount, First	75.00
Spring Branch	1,400.00
Winterville	325.00
Total	$ 6,487.04

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 100.00
Goldsboro, First, Ladies Auxiliary	200.00
Goldsboro, First	250.00
Haymount Mission	100.00
Hopewell	47.22
Robert's Grove	400.00
Victory Mission	29.71
Yelverton Grove	100.00
Total	$ 1,226.93

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Bridgeton	$ 26.00

Carteret Union	125.00
Croatan	50.00
Fifth Eastern Youth Rally	250.00
Gray Branch	100.00
Lanier's Chapel	50.00
Pilgrims Rest	10.00
Rock of Zion, Grantsboro	200.00
Wardens Grove	32.45
Total	$ 843.45

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 440.00
Calvary	100.00
Fremont	100.00
Holly Springs, WA	20.40
Little Rock	1,935.72
Marsh Swamp	135.00
Milbournie	37.50
Piney Grove Sunday School	35.00
Pleasant Hill	110.00
Pleasant Plain	200.00
Sherron Acres	465.00
Sherron Acres Ladies Auxiliary	189.00
Union Grove Sunday School	220.00
Wilson District Youth Fellowship	50.00
Wilson, First	250.00
Total	$ 4,287.22

OTHERS

Viola Best	$ 20.00
Reba Hill Blizzard	50.00
Thomas Bright	100.00
Cragmont Club	760.75
Bill and Linda Futch	5.00
Verena P. Johnson	100.00
Nellie Jones	60.00
League Convention	91.93
Ministerial Association	45.00
Mrs. Anna Moretz	5.00
Hettie Sasser	25.00
Doug Skinner	50.00
Ella Willoughby	25.00
Total	$ 1,337.68

EXPENSES

Salaries	$ 1,733.34
Loan Payment	45,400.55
Mileage	73.95
Advertising and Promotion	121.98
Employee Benefits	89.58
Total	$47,419.40

Checking Account Balance 11/30/80	$ 5,570.53
Building Fund Balance 11/1/80	$21,076.97
Transfer to Checking	21,076.97
Building Fund Balance 11/30/80	$ -0-

General Savings Balance 11/1/80	$11,867.38
Transfer to Checking	11,491.89
General Savings Balance 11/30/80	$ 375.49
Total Other Funds on Hand in Corporate Accounts	$ 5,946.02

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Watson, *treasurer*

The measure of a truly great man is the courtesy with which he treats small men.

"The Way I See It"

A Crocodile Is a Crocodile!

by C. H. Overman

Life causes us to involve ourselves in relationship to others. This is by no means a startling revelation. All will acknowledge this, but not everyone is willing to truly practice the principle that God is served by serving others.

It is true, however, that each individual Christian will not be able to reach and influence everyone. Even the gospel minister will not be a "hit" with certain people. Sorry, "preachers," but there are some out there who are just tolerating you! Give them a chance and they will, in one way or another, make you aware of their toleration or lack of it.

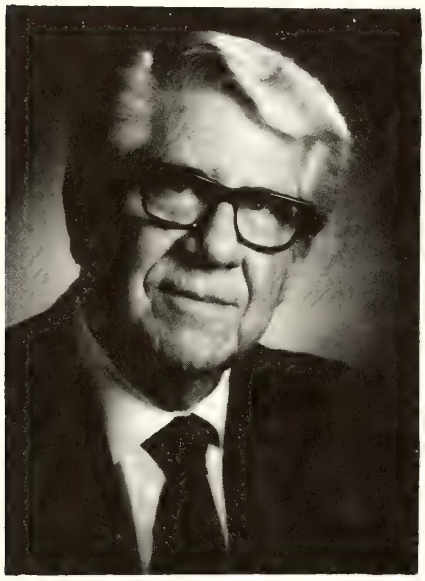
Is such not to be expected? When Christ sent out the chosen seventy and the chosen twelve, did He expect everyone to receive them and love them? Indeed He did not. "And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet" (Matthew 10:14). What do we do when we are rejected, or rather when our Christian ministry is not received? Turn from them—shake the dust from off your feet.

It is true that some people are just simply likeable and loveable, while some are not. Recently I heard this truth illustrated this way: You cannot love or pet a crocodile. If you touch him, or rub him, his brain does not have the ability to accept it. He'll just open his huge jaws and blow and grunt at you. In contrast, consider a puppy. Affectionately pet and care for it, and it will respond with delight. Kick it, yell at it, and it will still love you. It has the capability (brain power) to do so. Sure, it's just a puppy. But the way I see it, a crocodile is still a crocodile, and, sad to say, can only be treated as such.

The crocodile-type person delights in causing friction. His response to life is to be disgruntled, and to threaten others in one way or another. How far must we go in trying to understand and alter their nature? Well, you can only go so far because a crocodile is still a crocodile and surely will die as one. It's tough to be **rejected** in our most conscientious efforts, but our Lord has warned us about it. After all, He was!

NEWS & NOTES

Revival Services to Be Held at Gum Swamp Church



The Rev. C. F. Bowen

The Rev. C. F. Bowen will be the guest evangelist during revival services at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, March 23 through March 27. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join the congregation for this time of spiritual renewal.

Workshop to Be Held By Albemarle SS Convention

The Albemarle Sunday School Convention of Free Will Baptists will hold its first workshop at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Plymouth on Friday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 6:45 p.m. At the last convention in November, a new organizational structure was mandated by the delegates. In compliance with that mandate the now yearly convention will be held in conjunction with a workshop for Sunday school workers in the spring and a banquet will occur each fall. New officers for 1981 are: the Rev. F. Joe Griffith, president; the Rev. Paul Melson, vice-president; Mrs. Irene Pierce, secretary; Mrs. Eleanor Moore, treasurer. The workshop committee and leaders include: the Rev. F. Joe Griffith, the Rev. Marvin Waters, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, the Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Burkey, Mrs. Sherry Mohn, and Miss Becky Jo Sumner. A large attendance is expected at this first combined workshop and convention.

State Sunday School Convention to Meet

The State Sunday School Convention will meet on April 11 at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina. Registration will start at 9 a.m. and the convention will convene at 9:20 a.m. There will be two seminars. Both of these will be taught twice in order to allow everyone to participate in each one.

Spring Revival at Piney Grove Church

Revival services will be held March 30 through April 3 at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, North Carolina. The Rev. Harold Jones, pastor of Living Waters church of Pikeville, will be the guest evangelist.

Services will begin at 7:30 each evening and special singing will be rendered.

The Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow, pastor of the Piney Grove church, extends a warm welcome to everyone to attend these services.

Men's Fellowship Organized at St. Mary's Grove Church

A Men's Fellowship was organized by the men of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Benson, North Carolina, at a fellowship prayer breakfast held at Pineview Restaurant by eighteen men of the church. At a previous breakfast, it was decided to meet again on February 28 for the purpose of presenting their forthcoming revival before the throne of grace. At this time, the decision was made to continue meeting on a regular basis as an organization of the church.

Prior to breakfast, the men gathered in a circle with joined hands and engaged in a season of prayer. After the meal, a very fine program was presented by Mr. Sherwood Parker of the Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church.

Officers elected to serve the fellowship were the Rev. Rod Jones, president; Ray Cobb, vice president; J. W. Lee, treasurer; Bobby Norris, secretary; and Marshall Cobb as the program chairman. Future meetings of the fellowship will be held in the activity building of the church.

Third Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference will meet on Saturday, March 28, at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Albertson, North Carolina. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. All churches in the district are urged to be represented.

Revival Services at Eastover Mission

Revival services will begin on Sunday night, March 29, at the Eastover Free Will Baptist Mission, Dunn Road, Eastover, North Carolina. The Rev. Luby Tyner, pastor of Riverside church, will be the guest speaker. Services will begin each night at 7:30 with prayer rooms opening at 7:15.

The Rev. W. O. Lassiter, pastor, and the mission members invite everyone to these services.

Albemarle District Youth To Meet

The Albemarle District Youth Convention will meet with St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, on April 4. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. There will be several important things to discuss.

A copy of essays and declamations must be sent to the youth chairman by March 25.

If there are any questions, please call or write Mrs. Wallie Hargrove, Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, North Carolina 27810; phone 964-4402. She is the Albemarle District Youth Chairman.

Revival Services at Snow Hill Church



The Rev. Mike Scott

Revival services will be held at Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive, North Carolina, March 30 through April 3. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Mike Scott from Johnston Union church of Smithfield, North Carolina, will be the evangelist for the week.

There will be special singing each night under the direction of Mrs. Mary Gold Bell, which will be rendered by singers from other churches and the home church choir.

The pastor, the Rev. John A. Owens, and the church membership, extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend.

Foundation Singers to Be At Hugo Church

The Foundation Singers will be at Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Grifton, North Carolina, on Sunday, March 22, at 7 p.m. They will present a program of gospel music. Everyone is invited to attend this service. The pastor of the Hugo church is the Rev. Tom Miller.

Fifth Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Fifth Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Warden's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Lowland, on Saturday, March 28. Dr. Burkette Raper will be the guest speaker and the New Creations from Mount Olive College will sing. This meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The Sunday School Convention will follow the Union Meeting at 1 p.m.

Free Union Church Announces Revival

Revival services will be held March 22 through March 27, at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Douglas Skinner, pastor of Arapahoe church. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Calvin Heath is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

The Revelators to Be At Core Point Church

The Jerry Taylor Family, better known as the Revelators, will be at Core Point Free Will Baptist Church, Core Point, on March 22 during the 11 a.m. worship service to give the live puppet show of "Noah's Ark." Everyone is invited to this good Christian entertainment for all ages. A free will offering will be taken.

Jackson Heights Church To Have Revival Services

Jackson Heights Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, will have revival services March 30 through April 3. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each evening. The evangelist will be the Rev. William Littleton from Beulaville, North Carolina. The Rev. Harry Jones is pastor of the Jackson Heights church. Everyone is invited to attend these services and to be much in prayer.

Second Union of Western Conference to Meet

The Second Union Meeting of the Western Conference will meet with Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Bailey, North Carolina, on Saturday, March 28, 1981, at 7 p.m. At the last meeting the following officers were elected to serve this year: moderator, the Rev. Robert Langley; assistant moderator, the Rev. Barry Gardner; secretary-treasurer, Louise Poland; assistant secretary-treasurer, Donnie Davis; digest committee, Sylvester Poland; finance committee, the Rev. John Boykin; and Sunday school digest committee, Carol Langley. The host church and the union extend a special invitation to everyone to attend.

Sound Side to Have Weekend Revival

Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, North Carolina, will have a revival the first weekend in April. The Rev. Jack Mayo will be speaking April 3 and 4, at 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, will speak on April 5.

There will be special music. Everyone is invited to attend.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 29

BE READY—BE FAITHFUL

Lesson Text: Matthew 25:1-13
Memory Verse: Matthew 25:13

I. INTRODUCTION

Today's lesson continues Jesus' discourse that was begun in the previous lesson concerning the last things. Between that lesson and today's, Jesus discussed in greater detail some of the events associated with the destruction of Jerusalem and His return. The climax of the discussion came when Jesus issued His admonition for His followers to be prepared for His return (Matthew 24:36-44). This admonition was illustrated by three familiar parables—the parable of the unfaithful servant (vv. 45-51), the parable of the ten virgins (25:1-13), and the parable of the talents (vv. 14-30). Jesus closed the discourse and the chapter by pointing out one set of standards by which God will judge the world—how one treats the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the naked, the imprisoned (vv. 31:46). This lesson considers the second of the three parables that deal with the Lord's return—the parable of the ten virgins. It shows the importance of spiritual preparedness and the tragedy that awaits those who fail to make such preparation. **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In this lesson, we are still studying the Olivet discourse begun last Sunday. This is the great prophetic discourse of Jesus. Our Scripture for today consists of the parable about the ten virgins, and deals with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. It emphasizes the importance of being ready when the Lord comes.

B. Like this parable, six others in the Gospel of Matthew also deal with the Second Coming of Christ and the separation of the righteous from the wicked: (1) the wheat and the tares (Matthew 13:24-30); (2) the dragnet (Matthew 13:47-50); (3) the marriage feast (Matthew 22:2-14); (4) the household (Matthew 24:45-51); (5) the talents (Matthew 25:14-30); (6) the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46).

C. You will do well to point out that the Second Coming of Christ is sound Bible doctrine, implied or mentioned in almost all of the books of the Bible, both in the Old Testament and the New. However, many false doctrines have been built upon it, and there is much unbelief concerning it. Yet it is basic to our faith. Paul calls it the "blessed hope."

D. In this lesson we cannot deal with all the aspects of the Lord's return but will concentrate upon the one great truth that this parable was meant to teach—the importance of being ready when the Lord comes for His own.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In last Sunday's lesson we looked at some things Jesus said about the signs of the end-time and of His return to the earth. Many people today, including "rational" Christians, have serious doubts about the return of Christ; they say the doctrine of the Second Coming is just too fantastic to merit serious acceptance. What they have forgotten is that everything about Jesus Christ is fantastic! If we can accept His fantastic life, His fantastic death, His fantastic Resurrection, and His fantastic Ascension, we should be able to believe in His fantastic Second Coming.

B. He will return, for He said He would (John 14:3). Instead of casting doubt on His words we should be prepared for His coming at any moment. When should we start getting prepared? Should we wait until we are older, or just before we die? When the signs of His coming are more obvious? No. In the first place we have no assurance we will have an opportunity to get prepared just before we die. In the second place the signs of His coming are obvious enough; they have never been more obvious, and we doubt they ever will be again. The time to get ready for His coming is now, today, this very minute.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Promise Is Sure—A little boy was called in from play by his mother. As he left, a companion asked where he was going. "I am going to the airport to meet my daddy," the boy replied. "But how do you know he'll come in on the plane?" his friend asked. In full confidence the boy replied, "Because he said so." Is the promise of Christ less certain or true? **—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

March Is Foreign Missions Month

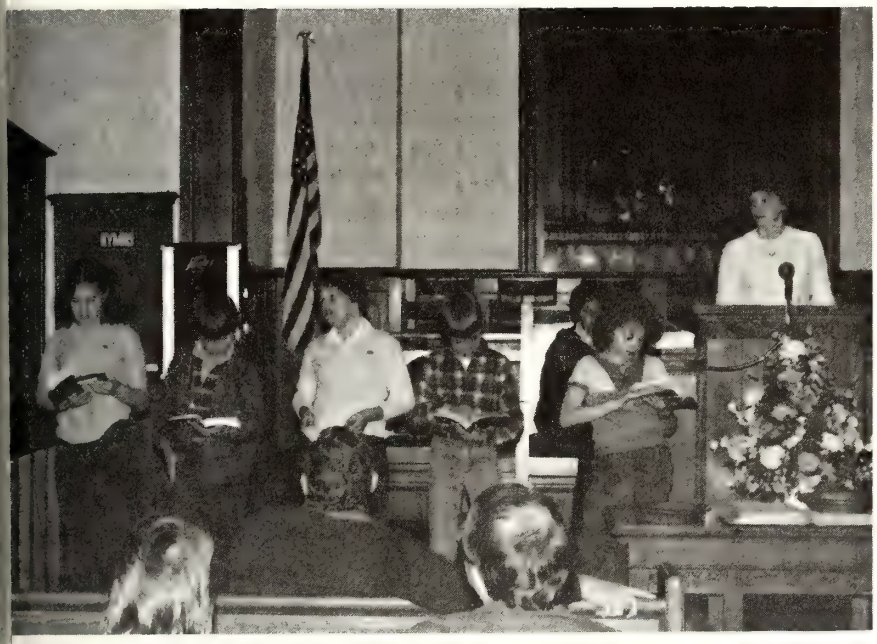
News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

CHILDREN'S HOME RELIGIOUS LIFE

by Bruce Steadman



Many organizations, including clubs, institutions, professions, and municipalities, have a "motto" which usually identifies the organization's purpose.

One of the most recognized mottos belongs to the Boy Scouts of America. It is "Be Prepared." The State of North Carolina even has a motto. It is "To Be, Rather Than to Seem."

Our Free Will Baptist Children's Home also has a motto. It is "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."

From its inception, this home has endeavored to provide a Christian atmosphere in which boys and girls could be trained in the way they should go, so that when they are old, they will not depart from it," as we are taught in Proverbs 22:6. This atmosphere is still present today.

Many of you have expressed a great deal of interest in our church at the Children's Home. I would like to assure everyone that the religious life on our campus is alive and well!

Our needs and schedule at the Home are unique and, therefore, we may not follow the same schedule of church activities that your church does. However, we, like you, schedule our church activities so that the greatest number of members can benefit. Allow me to present one example. Our children have the opportunity to visit friends or family the second and fourth weekends of each month. Sadly, when many of our children visit their families, they seldom attend church! We overcame this obstacle by scheduling our Sunday school program to precede our Sunday evening worship service. Children return from weekend visits on Sunday at 5 p.m. Sunday school begins at 6 p.m., so this schedule means that all of our children are involved in a Sunday school program and worship service **every week,** not just once in awhile!

We also encourage parents returning their children to campus to remain for Sunday school and worship. This has resulted in one profession of faith by a father and we currently have another father who attends regularly with his daughters.

After our Sunday school we have a worship service in the sanctuary. This worship service is given on a rotating basis by the individual Sunday school classes. This gives every member, from the youngest child to the oldest retiree, an opportunity to stand before the congregation and share his or her testimony, whether it be by song, prayer, Scripture reading, personal testimony. Our evening worship services are never the same and we get very excited anticipating what the class for each night will share with us.

Our religious life is rounded out by an 11 a.m. worship service **every** Sunday, and last, but far from least, a daily devotional period in each cottage.

I would invite each of you to visit with us during any of our services. I would also ask that you would remember us in your prayers as we continue to provide "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls" yesterday, and today, and forever. Amen.

ATTENTION

Western Conference Ministers

The Western Conference Ministers Fellowship will meet on March 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church. A program of special interest is planned. The topic, "Problems That Are Confronting Us" will be discussed. All Ministers of the Western Conference are invited to attend.

Thank you very much.

Charles Renfrow, *Secretary*
Ministers Fellowship

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

we are taking in members through the front door somebody needs to close the back door!

Brothers and sisters, let's do some soul searching. Have we left our first love? If so, it is time we return to Him. Are we marooned, dry-docked? Have our keels become wedged in the sand? If so, we need to—yea, we must—get off the shore and return to sea, for our Lord called us to be fishers of men, not dry-docked fishermen. **Each of us** has work to do; and let us remember that we often spend a lot of time doing church work and forget (or overlook) doing Christ's work.

Brothers and sisters, let's get to the heart of this matter. There is work to do.

Sunday Is the Day of the

TELETHON

FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS



CALL JOE INGRAM SUNDAY

(919) 734-5946

From 1:30-5:00 P.M.

Sunday could be the greatest day the Free Will Baptist foreign missions program has ever had. The Rev. Joe Ingram will be sitting by the phone ready to talk with you.

The Goal for March Is $25,000.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention To Be Held

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro, North Carolina, on March 19, 1981. The theme will be "How to Choose the Best for Your Life." The Scripture will be taken from Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "In the Service of the King"
—Devotion and Prayer, Mrs. Thelma Spencer
—Welcome, Mrs. Eva Belle Brinson
—Response, Mrs. Betty Ormond
10:30—President's Remarks, Mrs. Rena Kirk
—Business Session
11:05—Hymn, "Make Me a Channel of Blessing"
—Offering
—Reports:
Vandemere, Mrs. Nina Grace Register
Free Will Baptist Press and Superannuation, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
—Special Music, the Rev. Ray Williamson
11:25—Message, Mrs. Alice Barrow

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Chorus Time, Mrs. Deborah King
—Prayer
1:05—Essay Winner
—Declamation Winner
1:30—Reports:
Foreign Missions, the Rev. Joseph H. Ingram
Cragmont, the Rev. John Williams
Children's Home and Retirement Homes,

the Rev. Stewart Humphrey
Home Missions, the Rev. Ray Wells
Mount Olive College, Mrs. Dianne Riley
Eastern Conference Missions, the Rev. William E. Futch
2:10—Installation of Officers, Mrs. Ruby Hancock
—Benediction
Music Director, Mrs. Deborah King
Pianist, Mrs. Nina Grace Register

Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention to Convene

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina, on March 21, 1981. The district president is Mrs. Francis Carraway. The theme will be "Show Me—Teach Me, O Lord." The Scripture will be taken from Psalm 25:4, "Show me thy ways, O Lord; Teach me Thy paths." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "He Leadeth Me"
—Devotion, Mrs. Vernon Brasswell
—Welcome, Mrs. Bertha Harris
—Response, Mrs. Alma Buck
10:15—Greetings, President
—Recognition Time
—Business Period
10:30—Teach Me—Show Me Through Missions, Miss Leah McGlohon
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
—(Mission Money and Talents for Cragmont)
—Choruses
10:50—Teach Me—Show Me Through the Children's Home, Mrs. Jane Tripp
—Retirement Home
—Love Offering
—Teach Me—Show Me Through the Printed Page, Mrs. Elizabeth Hill
—Hymn, "If Jesus Goes with Me"
11:20—Special Music, Mrs. Faye Rogers, Hugo Church; Mrs. Glenda Hamm
—Introduction of Speaker, Mrs. Dot Dail
11:30—Morning Message, Mrs. Janie Sowers, Marlboro Church
12:00—Benediction
—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:15—Chorus
—Prayer
—Youth, Mrs. Dot Dail and Mrs. Joan Little
—Presentation of Declamation Winner
—Presentation of Essay Winner
—Show Me—Teach Me Through Studying, Mrs. Albert Proctor
—Cragmont, Mrs. Minnie Mae Chandler
—Mount Olive College
—Anna Phillips Loan Fund, Mrs. Bertha Harris
2:00—Chorus
—Life Membership Award, Mrs. Judy Harris, Hickory Grove Church
—Business Period
—Time of Renewal
2:30—Hymn, "Take My Life and Let It Be"
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Faye E. Rogers
Organist, Mrs. Betty Albertson
Song Leader, Miss Leah McGlohon

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM SUNDAY

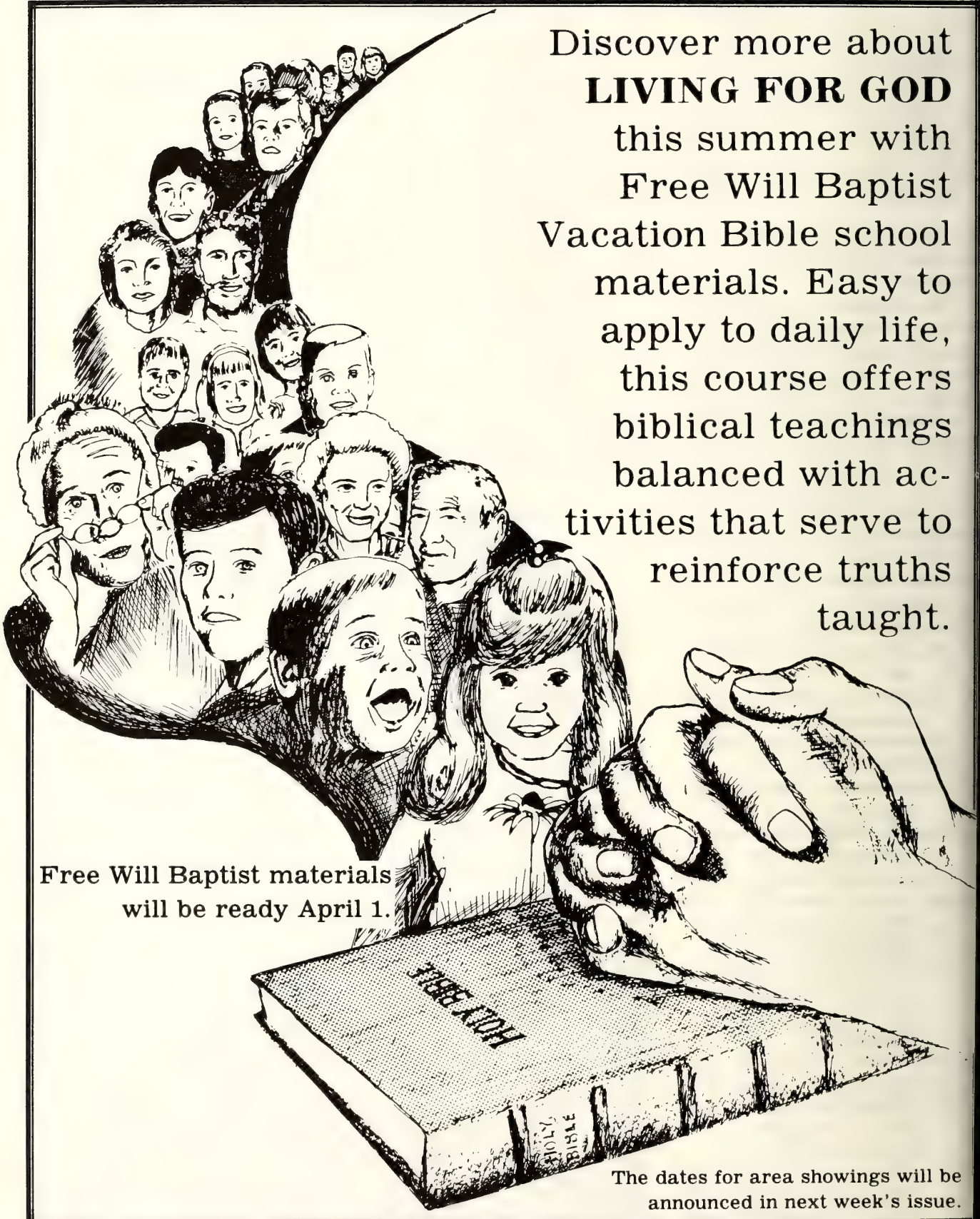
The "New Creations," a Christian witnessing team which travels throughout the state presenting programs of gospel music, is scheduled to appear at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, March 22, at 11 a.m. Sponsored by Mount Olive College and under the direction of Miss Caroline Castelloe, director of Counseling Services, the "New Creations" is composed of ten students, five freshmen and five sophomores, from the College.

The Rev. John Rayford Lee, pastor, invites the public to attend this service and hear the message that these Mount Olive College students have to share. Bethel Free Will Baptist Church is located on Route 2, Four Oaks.

To know God's will is life's greatest treasure.

To do God's will is life's greatest pleasure.

Discover more about **LIVING FOR GOD** this summer with Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible school materials. Easy to apply to daily life, this course offers biblical teachings balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.



Free Will Baptist materials will be ready April 1.

The dates for area showings will be announced in next week's issue.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Let's Multiply, NOT Divide

I never cease to be amazed, surprised, ashamed, hurt—and sometimes, amused—by the things which cause trouble in churches. (You know, those little incidents that serve to divide congregations.)

For example, **do you remember the time when . . .**

. . . Brother "So and So" threatened to stay out of the service if Mr. _____ was allowed to speak that day?

. . . The business meeting when remarks continuously became stronger and sharper as each entrenched side spoke? Some of the men were breathing heavily. (I'll never forget how red their faces got!) Heads were shaking; people were jumping to their feet. Suddenly Mr. Somebody abruptly grabbed his jacket and stomped out without saying a word. He didn't have to.

. . . Mrs. Anybody couldn't understand why her children's names were not on the Sunday school roll? The fact they had not been in church in a year didn't matter to her.

. . . Mr. Nobody quit church? He was having trouble with his son. One day he decided the lad needed a good father figure; so he called his pastor. The minister said he would visit the boy, but he never did. It seems as though that has been about ten years ago.

. . . The Everybodys got upset? Mrs. Somebody thought she was the only one in the church who could do anything. The Everybodys could not understand why she would not let them do anything. They failed to believe she knew everything; she continued to insist she did.

Unusual occurrences? Rare happenings? No, I'm afraid not. It seems as though the body of Christ has always had trouble expressing strong emotional feelings. The shades and shapes of anger are many. If ignored, the consequences can be quite painful—friends can be alienated, fellowships separated, relationships broken, "terminal" pains inflicted. Anger, the "queen of passions," is usually seen as being bad, sinful. As a result, this emotion tends to be repressed; many individuals feel it will "go away" if ignored. Instead, it normally festers. But often the trouble is not merely the existence of "inappropriate" feelings. The source of contention often rests in the manner of their expression; more often than not, anger manifests in poorly channeled acts and comments.

Whenever problems arise—and they will, for we are human—we need to first identify the issues and feelings involved. Then, constructive channels and ways to communicate existing feelings need to be developed. Differences of opinion **and** strong feelings can coexist where an atmosphere of spiritual love and communion prevails. The Spirit of God is always willing to harmonize relationships; but we are constantly tempted **not** to rely on God's mediating powers. We react hastily, adopting the world's old and inadequate model of behavior. The Spirit is "the essential ingredient in the recipe for a continuous healing of anger in the church."

Brothers and sisters, let us "put out the brushfires" before we succumb to the heavy, suffocating smoke. We can, you know!

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION HELD

submitted by Bobby Taylor

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues met with Winterville Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 7, 1981. The theme of the Convention was "He's Able," and the spirit of the Convention excitedly projected just that—God's able to meet our needs.

Mrs. Lois Krawczyk, a member of the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Washington County), gave the morning devotions. Mr. James W. Cahoon reported on the Christian Cadet Conference; he also shared some highlights of the camping plans for the 1981 conference (June 22-27).



Mrs. Margaret Ard directed the Sword Drill contest, as the youth demonstrated their skills in the use of God's Word. The Junior division winners were first place—Lynn Hinson, Beaverdam church; second place—Junior Metts, Christian Chapel. The Intermediate division winners were first place—Ann Hinson, Beaverdam church; second place—Sheila Metts, Christian Chapel.



Certificates were awarded to Leagues having the best attendance records. The winners were as follows: Story Hour—Christian Chapel; Junior—Piney Grove (Washington County); Teenagers—Mount Zion; and Adults—Mount Zion.





After the business of the Convention was conducted, those present entered into an inspiring song service under the direction of Miss Leah McGlohon.

Miss Becky Jo Sumner, a member of Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church and State Youth Chairman, delivered the morning message.

The Convention was closed with the singing of the League song, "Onward Christian Leaguers," and the recitation of the League benediction. Everyone was then directed to the Winterville Community Building where lunch was served.

The meeting was one of the best the League Convention has ever had.



News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

GIFTS AND INQUIRIES COMING IN



The news about our new "State Cottage for the Retired" is spreading fast. As a result, substantial gifts from individuals and churches are beginning to come in.

Several persons have inquired as to how they might help in publicizing this new ministry in their local communities. Applications for rooms in the new facility are coming in. At the current rate, all of the rooms will be filled long before the building is ready.

We need several large contributors to come forward as soon as possible. If you are thinking about retiring in "State Cottage for the Retired," a generous investment in its development now could provide for a portion of your care later on.

Help plan for your favorite pastor's retirement, a beloved Sunday School teacher's, your parents', and your own by contributing today toward the development of "State Cottage for the Retired."

You may:

(1) Sponsor the total cost of the program, $45,000, and thereby provide for your own future. Each month one half the cost of care would be amortised from your initial investment providing care for 10 years. At that time, the resident would begin paying the current monthly rate.

(2) One could sponsor the cost of a room, $3,750. One half the monthly rate would be charged for the first year of care and the current monthly rate thereafter.

(3) Donors of $1,000 or more would become Founders and their names will be placed on an appropriate plaque in the entrance of the building.

(4) Donors of $100 or more would be listed as "Contributing Friends." A plaque recognizing these donors will be erected in an appropriate place in the Cottage.

Churches and church groups may sponsor rooms in the cottage for $3,750. An appropriate plaque will be placed in that room recognizing the gift.

Everyone who participates, regardless of the amount, will be listed in the Register of Sponsors and Visitors which will lie open in the foyer of the Cottage at all times.

One may turn over insurance policies to cover the cost of care. Real estate may be deeded to the Retirement Homes, easing the tax burden on the retiree and paying for one's retirement. Special funds could be set up to cover the cost of care now and skilled nursing care in the future, if the need should arise.

Make your gift today. Let's not send another devoted Free Will Baptist minister or layman to someone else to receive retirement care.

MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **IS THE IDEA OF A REST HOME CATCHING ON?** Yes. As you can see in the article above, there is a great deal of interest in the new program.

2. **WHAT ABOUT MEDICAL SERVICES?** Twenty-four hour supervision will be available in the cottage. Ambulance service is only 2 or 3 minutes away. Dr. Alonza Burba and his capable staff in nearby Middlesex (3 minutes) offer complete medical care. The Middlesex Clinic is affiliated with the Carolina Clinic at Wilson. Specialists for every need are available. Wilson Memorial Hospital is 20 minutes away. Eastern Wake is only 7 minutes away. Duke and Chapel Hill Medical Centers are all within 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes from the Retirement Homes. Transportation for medical appointments or illness will be provided. We feel that the medical care available in our area is second to none.

(Continued on Page 14)

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

BROKEN LIVES



Songs have been sung about broken-hearted lovers. Stories have been written about picking up the pieces of life and beginning again.

At the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, through the power and love of God, broken lives are put back together again—lives shattered by family breakup, death and problems of numerous varieties. Our work goes on diligently, hour after hour, day after day, looking for just the right piece, the right moment when and where things can fall into place. It's a long, tedious process, but it's not finished until all the pieces are in place.

There are many things that make up life. They are all different and, yet, all essential if life is to be whole. They all have their particular place. That's why the Free Will Baptist Children's Home seeks to minister to the whole person and his or her environment. We can provide all a child in care needs—spiritual, physical, medical, educational, recreational, social, and anything else that one could think of, but to fail to see the child within the context of his family is to miss one of the more important needs in his or her life. His family relationships are scattered and broken. Before his or her life can be whole, all these pieces must be placed in perspective with all the other needs in his or her life.

All of our children have some of their family available to them. Some see family members once or twice a year. Others visit family members every month. This bridge with family must be maintained and strengthened. If one does not exist, one must be built.

The agony of searching to put life's pieces in the right perspective brings a great deal of pressure on little lives and a mountain of frustration in the lives of adolescents. Our children need your prayers. They need the power and love of God to find the right place for the broken pieces. Be a prayer partner for a bewildered child and his or her family. Share the joy of seeing life's puzzle complete!

COMING EVENTS

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 28—Cape Fear Union Meeting, Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Garner, North Carolina, beginning at 10 a.m.

March 28—Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference, Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Albertson, North Carolina, at 10 a.m.

March 29—Second Union of Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, 3 p.m., Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina

March 29—Mount Olive College Sunday in Local Churches

March 29—Fourth Union of Central District, Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina, 9:45 a.m.

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 4—Alumni Day at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina; annual banquet at 5:30 p.m. on the downtown campus

April 4—Albemarle District Youth Convention, St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina; registration at 9:30 a.m.

April 11—State Sunday School Convention, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina; registration at 9 a.m., convention convenes at 9:20 a.m.

(Continued on Page 14)



SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

THERE'S NO LOST GOOD

The poet Robert Browning said, "There never shall be one lost good. All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said, "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water . . . verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matthew 10:42).

MONDAY, MARCH 30

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 28:5, 6; 62:3

A CROWN WELL WON

At a verdant site on the campus of Bob Jones University is the tomb of Dr. Bob Jones Sr., founder of the university.

The epitaph on his tomb is a paraphrase of the words of the Apostle Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness" (2 Timothy 4:7, 8). It triumphantly proclaims:

A FIGHT WELL FOUGHT
A RACE WELL RUN
THE FAITH WELL KEPT
A CROWN WELL WON

Will you be able to say at journey's end, "I have fought a good fight. I have kept the faith"?

PRAYER THOUGHT

So live that others will say of you,

"Servant of God, well done!
Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won.
And thou art crowned at last!"

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 3:13

WHAT IT TAKES

Said Roger Babson, famed statistician, "It takes a person who is wide awake to make his dreams come true."

All honest work is honorable: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Work, for the night is coming,
Work thro' the morning hours;
Work while the dew is sparkling; Work, 'mid springing flow'rs.
Work, when the day grows brighter, Work in the glowing sun;
Work, for the night is coming,
When man's work is done.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

Scripture Reading—Numbers 18: 25-32

"GOD, IF YOU WILL LET ME MAKE MONEY"

Some of the large corporations in the United States had their beginnings and growth through the faithful tithing, and giving beyond the tithe, of their founders.

Henry P. Crowell, "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," contracted tuberculosis when a boy and couldn't go to school. After hearing a sermon by Dwight L. Moody, young Crowell prayed, "I can't be a preacher, but I can be a good businessman. God, if You will let me make money, I will use it in Your service."

Under the doctor's advice Crowell worked outdoors for seven years and regained his health. He then bought the little run-down Quaker Mill at Ravenna, Ohio. Within ten years Quaker Oats was a household word to millions. Crowell also operated the huge Perfection Stove Company.

For more than forty years Henry P. Crowell faithfully gave 60 to 70 percent of his income to God's causes.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also (Matthew 6:19-21).

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

Scripture Reading—Psalm 31:7

O LORD, SEND ADVERSITY

A pastor told of a businessman in Florida who faithfully put the Lord and His church first in his life. But then the man began to prosper in business and became the owner of five flourishing stores. Gradually he began to cut the services of his church. His pastor became greatly concerned about him, and went to see him in his office.

fter the exchange of etings, the pastor said, ou have been greatly missed m church. What's the trou- ?"

he young man replied, "My es demand more and more ny time, but I don't fail to that my usual weekly offer- of $100 reaches the asurer. You doubtlessly w I give more to the church n any other member."

he pastor listened with a vy heart. He had unfeigned cern for the spiritually im- erished man.

Before I go," he said, "let's el and pray."

ervently the pastor impor- ed, "O God, our brother is prosperous. He has forgot- You and forsaken Your se. Send adversity to him. If essary, Lord, let his stores burned to the ground, so he have time for You and Your se!"

s the pastor concluded his nest prayer, the man weep- ly said, "I want to pray too, tor. I see it now."

roken-heartedly he pled, od, forgive me for short- nging You and neglecting soul's welfare. I will do dif- ently now."

PRAYER THOUGHT

ut thou shalt remember the d . . . for it is he that giveth e power to get wealth Deuteronomy 8:18). *If riches rease set not your heart n them* (Psalm 62:10b).

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

ripture Reading—Psalm 31:23

FOUR THINGS TO DO

our things a man must learn lo

f he would make his record e:

o think without confusion arly;

o love his fellow-men cerely;

o act from honest motives ely;

To trust in God and Heaven securely.

PRAYER THOUGHT

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (Micah 6:8).

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 1:3-7

NOT DISCOURAGED

As a Baptist deacon walked home from church one Sunday morning, he met a friend who asked, "Where have you been?"

The deacon replied, "I have been to church, and I am still not discouraged!"

While being realistic about wrong and avoiding Pollyanna optimism, a pastor must remember that distraught, discouraged ones look to God's man for inspiration and spiritual help.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God (Isaiah 40:1a).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

News from

Home Missions

by
Taylor Hill

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Due to illness our reporting has not been very good lately and we beg your forgiveness and patience.

As you well know, wherever our Lord's business is going on, Satan is there trying to hinder and discourage and destroy; but, thanks and glory be to God, our God is more powerful than Satan.

It has been a trying experience in getting this department established and moving ahead, and without many of you who understand and care enough to help and without God's blessings, it could not have been done.

We are not in a position to give complete current reports at this time, but you can rest assured that except for normal problems, things are moving along all right.

(CHANGE OF ADDRESS): Agape Mission in Raleigh has moved to a new address: 208 Saint Marys Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27605. They are using a Seventh Day Adventist Church and are negotiating a purchase.

(NEW MISSION STARTED): We have started another new mission approximately five miles west of Winston-Salem off to the right of Advance crossroads and I-45. The missionary is Jerry Campbell, who came to us from Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church in Pikeville. He has a wife and two teenage girls. Their address is: Route 4, Box 270, Advance, North Carolina 27006; phone, 998-5766.

Our current new project is working with the Central Conference in getting a new work established in Rocky Mount. We are in need of **builder, evangelist type missionaries** to go to Charlotte and Rocky Mount at this time. Our Deaf Camp will be continued as usual this summer under the direction of the Rev. Dale and Jasmine Albertson.

A PRODUCT IN
FWB MATE



I am a product in part of Free Will Baptist quarterlies.

THE day started out as any other day. A few employees joked because it was Friday the 13th. But by 8:30 a.m., everything had changed. The words, "Have you heard? The Governor's coming!" resounded in every hall, office, and room at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation in Ayden, North Carolina. By nine o'clock, everyone had anxiously gathered in the bookstore. What would the Governor say and do while here? everyone wondered. No one was sure, but everyone was excited. Within minutes, the doors opened and the Honorable James B. Hunt, Governor of the State of North Carolina, entered.

"I am a product in part of Free Will Baptist quarterlies," the Governor began. "I am very proud of this institution, for in a real sense, what you do here determines what kind of denomination we have; the ideas you project in your work help determine what kind of citizens your readers become. Sunday school materials can and do make a profound difference in the lives of people."

Affirming his belief in the importance of the church, Governor Hunt stressed the necessity of our being involved with the cares and concerns of others. "God expects us to be involved in doing His work in the world. That doesn't just mean those who are like us; and it doesn't just mean within the walls of our church or even our community." He then called upon everyone

PART OF

ALS

to follow the example of Christ in providing opportunities in life, in giving love, in helping, in building human relationships. "The whole essence of Jesus' life calls for us to do the right thing, even if it hurts—and often it does."

"You have a good future if you work hard. It is a special pleasure to be here today," the Governor concluded.

After addressing the Press employees, he toured the facilities and returned to Raleigh.

Governor Hunt is no stranger to the Original Free Will Baptist Church and its causes, or to Free Will Baptists. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., live in Lucama and attend Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church (the Governor's former church). Mr. Hunt (Sr.) serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College.



Governor Hunt was in Ayden, Friday to address the first function of the newly formed Ayden Council of the Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

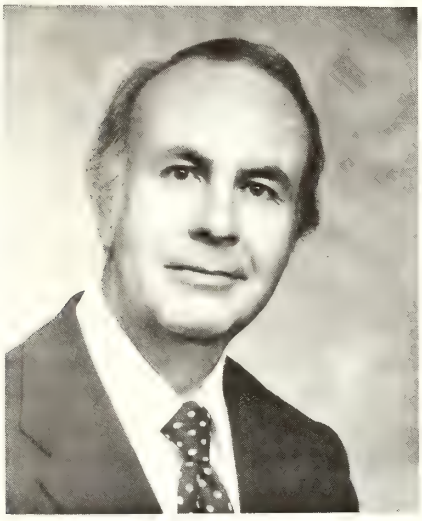


Sunday school materials can and do make a profound difference in the lives of people.

. . . what you do here determines what kind of denomination we have . . .

NEWS & NOTES

Union Chapel Church Announces Revival Services



The Rev. Earl Glenn

Revival services will be held at Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Plymouth, North Carolina, March 30 through April 3. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Earl Glenn will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music presented each evening. The pastor, the Rev. O. Swade Benson, and the congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Revival Services in Progress at Juniper Chapel

Revival services are in progress through March 27 at Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Vanceboro, North Carolina. The prayer room opens at 7:30 p.m. and services begin at 7:45 p.m. The Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the Tarboro church, is the evangelist. The Rev. Stanley Buck is pastor of Juniper Chapel church. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival Services to Be Held at Winterville Church

Revival services will be held at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, March 30 through April 3. Prayer room will be open each night at 7:15 with the service beginning at 7:30. The Rev. Danny Braswell, pastor of Peace church, Pinetops, North Carolina, will be the evangelist. In addition to special singing by the choir and local groups, the junior choir will be singing each night at 7:15. The Rev. Ed Taylor, pastor, and the church extend a warm welcome to everyone to attend.

Ormondsville Plans Spring Revival



The Rev. Frank Flowers

Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden, North Carolina, will have its spring revival April 5 through April 9, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Frank Flowers, pastor of Little Creek church, will be the guest speaker. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Jack Mayo is pastor of Ormondsville church. The congregation welcomes everyone in the area to attend.

Revival in Progress At May's Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress through March 27, at May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Dudley, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Wayne King is the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Andrew Hill, and the congregation cordially invite the public to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival Services in Progress At Owen's Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress through March 28, at Owen's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. with the Rev. Noah Brown as the evangelist. Good gospel singing is being presented each evening. The Rev. Melvin Moore is pastor of the church. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, March 28, 1981, with Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson County. The host pastor, the Rev. Joe Johnson, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. Charles Sugg will preach the Union message.

The Union clerk's address is Ken Forehand, 914 Danbury Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27703.

Little Rock Church Revival in Progress

Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, North Carolina, is having its spring revival. Services are being held through March 27, at 7:30 each evening. Prayer groups assemble at 7:15 each evening prior to the services under the leadership of the Board of Deacons. A nursery attendant

is on duty each evening. The social committee is preparing for a fellowship hour following the conclusion of the services on Friday evening. Little Rock choirs and invited guests are providing special music.

The evangelist for the services is the Rev. W. S. Burns, pastor of Elm Grove church, Ayden, North Carolina. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services. The pastor of Little Rock church is the Rev. DeWayne Eakes.

Albemarle Union and League Convention to Meet

The Albemarle Union Meeting will meet at Malachi's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Columbia, North Carolina, on March 28, 1981, beginning at 10 a.m. The Albemarle League Convention will meet on Saturday, March 28, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Roper, North Carolina. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING
OPENING SESSION
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Robert May
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs
—Response, the Rev. Marvin Waters
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time
BUSINESS SESSION
10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved
MORNING WORSHIP
11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, the Rev. Steve Hargrove
—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION
7:30—Devotion, Tracie Patrick
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Revival Services at Union Grove Church

Revival services will begin on Monday, April 6, and will continue through Friday, April 10, at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Fremont, North Carolina. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. David Charles Hansley. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening with prayer room opening at 7:15. The congregation invites everyone to attend these services.

Pleasant Hill Church Announces Revival Services



The Rev. O. B. Jones

Revival services will be held at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, March 30 through April 4, each evening at 7:30. The evangelist for the meeting will be the Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, North Carolina.

Spirited gospel singing and music will be featured each evening, with the emphasis on good gospel preaching. The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, cordially invites everyone to attend.

The church is located on Highway 43 one mile north of Calico.

Lay Rally to Be At Fremont Church

On March 27, 1981, at 7:30 p.m., the Layman's League of Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, will sponsor a lay rally entitled, "Moving Forward in '81."

The need for active church laymen is great in the present day and will be even greater in the years that follow. Many

(Continued on Page 15)

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For April 5

PREPARING FOR DIFFICULT TIMES

Lesson Text: Matthew 26:1-16
Memory Verse: Matthew 26:39

I. INTRODUCTION

An American was once visiting a missionary in a rural area in Korea when he noticed a most unusual thing. In a rice paddy he saw a young man hitched to a plow while at its handles strained an older man. "They must be very poor to have to plow like that," observed the visitor.

"They had a buffalo last year," said the missionary, "but when money was needed to help build a chapel, they sold their buffalo and gave the money to the church."

"What a great sacrifice that was!" exlaimed the American.

"They didn't think so," replied the missionary. "They just thanked God that they had a buffalo to give."

The woman who anointed Jesus with the expensive ointment made a similar sacrifice, yet she did it so freely and so gratefully that she obviously didn't consider it a sacrifice at all. For two thousand years now, her gift has been an example for all Christians.

Last week's lesson dealt with Jesus' discussion of His second coming and His exhortation for His followers to be prepared for it (Matthew 25:1-13). The rest of the chapter also centered on His return and the judgment that will follow. Following this discourse the drama of the passion week began to move rapidly toward its tragic conclusion. Today's lesson deals with several of these events of the last few hours. We are given a few glimpses of Jesus and His disciples, and then the veil of secrecy is pulled aside, allowing us to watch Jesus' enemies as they plot His death.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Jesus had finished the Olivet discourse. Now for the fourth time, He predicts His coming death (Matthew 16:21; 17:12; 20:17-19; 26:2). Time is rapidly running out, and in this lesson we shall see how Jesus sought to prepare Himself and His disciples for the difficult days that were ahead. As we study this lesson, we want not only to see how Jesus prepared Himself and His disciples for these difficulties, but also to learn how we can prepare ourselves for the difficult times that may be ahead in our lives.

B. There are none of us who feel that we would betray Jesus in the way Judas did. Perhaps not in this way, but is it not a fact that often we deny Him by our words and acts in everyday living?

C. How do you think Jesus felt toward Judas? How would you have felt under the same circumstances? How do you think He felt toward Mary? How would you have felt under the same circumstances? How do you think Jesus felt toward the indignant disciples? How would you have felt? Try to be honest in your answers.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The last four lessons in our study of Matthew's writings form Unit V, "Through Suffering to Victory," and cover the events from Christ's intimate moments with those who loved Him most, through His death and Resurrection, to His final command to take the gospel into all the world. After that we will engage in studies from Hebrews.

B. Today's lesson stresses three major facts: (1) The faithful are not exempt from difficult times. They will come to all, *especially* if they are faithful to God's will. Jesus faced them; so will we. (2) God sustains those who are faithful to His Word. Even as difficult times come upon us, God is always ready to bear us up with His wings of mercy, grace, and power. He may not always remove the difficult when we want Him to, but He will always be there to help us bear it. (3) Jesus is responsive to our sensitive feelings of devotion to Him. Such devotion is never overlooked. Even the little things we do for Him—out of genuine love—are always appreciated by our Lord. He responds to our devotion by giving us far more in return.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Let me give you a quotation from Dr. Robert G. Lee, a man that I believe to be one of the best preachers our country has ever produced. He was for many years pastor of the great Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. "You cannot build a skyscraper on a dollhouse foundation. You cannot put ocean liners in brooks. Neither can there be built a great national superstructure with less than the Bible for a foundation."—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

March Is Foreign Missions Month

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM



The "New Creations," a Christian witnessing team sponsored by Mount Olive College and under the direction of Miss Caroline Castelloe, director of Counseling Services, is scheduled to appear at the following places:

March 27	7:30 p.m.	Oriental church (Weekend Revival)
March 28	10:00 a.m.	Warden's Grove church (Fifth Eastern Union Meeting
March 28	7:30 p.m.	Oriental church (Weekend Revival)
March 29	11:00 p.m.	Oriental church (Weekend Revival)
March 29	7:00 p.m.	LaGrange church

All interested individuals are invited to attend these services and hear the message that these Mount Olive College students have to share.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM AT ORIENTAL

The New Creations, a ten-member witnessing team from Mount Olive College will be conducting a weekend revival at the Oriental Free Will Baptist Church, March 27-29. Services will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 11 a.m. on Sunday. The pastor, the Rev. Ralph Sumner, extends an invitation to all churches in the area to participate in these services.

The members of the New Creations as pictured here are: (Front row) Avis Holland from Dudley, Shirley White from Ahoskie, Rhonda Jones from Goldsboro, Terri Ruff from Burlington, and Jo Anne Hawes from Goldsboro; (Back row) Chris Harrell from Morehead City, Roy Lewis from Blount's Creek, Tony Souder from Arapahoe, Caroline Castelloe (director), David Merritt from Fayetteville, and Mike Warren from Spivey's Corner.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT ARAPAHOE CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, March 29, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Doug Skinner.

CRAGMONT NEWS

by John Williams

During the month of February we had some very cold weather at Cragmont. One night the temperature dropped down to 4 degrees below zero with a wind chill factor of 35 degrees below zero! Because of the extreme cold weather, we have sustained some damage to the main building much to our regret. Even though we had heat in the building, a pipe to one of the bathrooms burst causing considerable water damage to the first floor and basement. We are in the process of getting estimates to repair this damage. It looks like it will cost about $600 to make the repairs. As Free Will Baptists you have an investment in Cragmont and we felt we should report this to you.

Now on the brighter side. As you may know the General Baptists held their 1980 Ministers' Conference at Cragmont Assembly. They have requested to use our facilities at Cragmont again this year for their 1981 Ministers' Conference to be held May 18-21, 1981. Last year I made an appeal through the **Free Will Baptist** for help with this week since our 1980 staff had not arrived for work. This year again we will not have an adequate staff to take care of the General Baptists. Therefore, I am asking any one who would be willing to help out with the General Baptist Ministers' Conference to please contact me at Cragmont. We especially need some good cooks. Generally the job involves cooking, serving, cleaning, etc. If you cannot come during the conference maybe you could come the week before and help us get the camp ready. We are especially appealing to any of our ministers who could arrange to be here to help us. Cragmont is prepared to give you your room and board in exchange for your service. This is a great opportunity for fellowship with a denomination that is so much like ours. If you can help call me at 704-669-7677 or write me at 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711.

We appreciate your fine response to the Cragmont Club and your continuing interest in Cragmont Assembly as a whole.

Have you renewed your subscription for **The Free Will Baptist?**

RETIREMENT HOMES

(Continued from Page 4)

3. **WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?** Now! The list is growing. You should make your desire to live in the "State Cottage for the Retired" known as soon as possible so that you can have first choice in room and accomodations.

4. **WILL THE PROGRAM BE LICENSED?** Yes. The building plans have already been approved by the State. All other phases of the program will meet all the licensing requirements of the State.

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

April 11—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, 10 a.m.

April 25—State Youth Convention, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina, 9:30 a.m.

Making Disciples in India . . .

by Dr. E. L. Lall



Dr. Emmanuel Lall (center), head of work in India, with his ordaining council.

The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded His church to make disciples of every nation. This task has been given to His church. All are called upon to be a living witness to the saving power of Jesus Christ. No matter who we are and where we are, if we call Jesus our Lord, God intends that we proclaim our faith by what we say and how we live.

No church will deny that the chief mission of the church is evangelism, and no true Christian will deny that the responsibility of evangelism rests with the followers of the Lord.

He has said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God" (see Matthew 6:33), and "preach the kingdom of God" (see Luke 9:57-62). We in India believe you will keep us in your prayers that we might do these things.

AUXILIARY NEWS

WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TO CONVENE

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church near Kenly on Wednesday, April 1, 1981. The theme will be "The Commands of Christ." The Scripture will be taken from John 15:10. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:15—Registration
9:45—Hymn, "Footsteps of Jesus"
—Devotion, Mrs. Brenda Sugg
—Welcome, Mrs. Sarah Lee Talton
—President's Remarks, Mrs. Virginia Joyner
10:10—"Bring Them In." Christ Commands Us to Witness, Mrs. Florence Taylor
—Compassion Through Benevolence, Mrs. Nadine Crocker
—Special Music, Host Auxiliary
—Youth, Heed the Commands of Christ, Mrs. Eleanor Sullivan
1:00—Hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story"
—Offering
—Special Music, Convention Choir
—Convention Message, Mrs. Pluma Sullivan
2:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Hymn, "I Am Thine, O Lord"
—Devotion and Memorial Service, Mrs. Nancy Duncan
—Special Music, Host Auxiliary
—Business Session
—Installation Service, Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser
—Closing Hymn, "Jesus Calls Us"
—Benediction

ATTENTION NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1981 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 14, at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their $10 registration fee in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegates the trouble of handling the money. Also, in the event something happens at the last minute to prohibit your representing in person, your auxiliary is registered as having been represented.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will have time to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 14. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the convention needs your support. Mail your fee to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Treasurer, 517 WestoverAvenue Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Ed Fordham announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral work. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted by writing to him at 821 Chattawka Lane, New Bern, North Carolina 28560; phone 637-9420.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 11)

churches have become lax in this area of ministry. Many churches do not have an active Layman's League organization. The purpose of this rally is to revive the men in the churches, by uniting and sharing ways of improving the ministry of the laymen.

Revival Services Scheduled At Marlboro Church

Revival services are scheduled at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, for March 29—April 1. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of Marlboro church, will be speaking each evening. Special music will be presented nightly. The services will begin at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Jerry Taylor Family to Be At Sandy Plain Church

The Jerry Taylor Family will be at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville, North Carolina, on Sunday, March 29, at 6 p.m. They will present a program entitled "Noah's Ark." A free will offering will be received for the Children's Home. The pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone.

Executive Committee To Meet

The Executive Committee of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet Tuesday, March 31, at the Holiday Inn in Kinston. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. All members are encouraged to attend.

VBS Area Showings . . .

Discover more about LIVING FOR GOD this summer. Attend the area showing nearest you, so you can preview Free Will Baptist materials.

Monday, April 6	New Bern Bible and Bookstore	10:00 a.m.
	Free Will Baptist Press	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 7	Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson	7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 10	Kinston Bible and Bookstore	7:30 p.m.

Here to Serve You!

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass church steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so that we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.

Speaking at the first function of the newly formed Ayden Council of the Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce in Ayden on Friday, March 13, Governor James B. Hunt called the Press Foundation "an asset to the community." That's just what we strive to be—an asset!



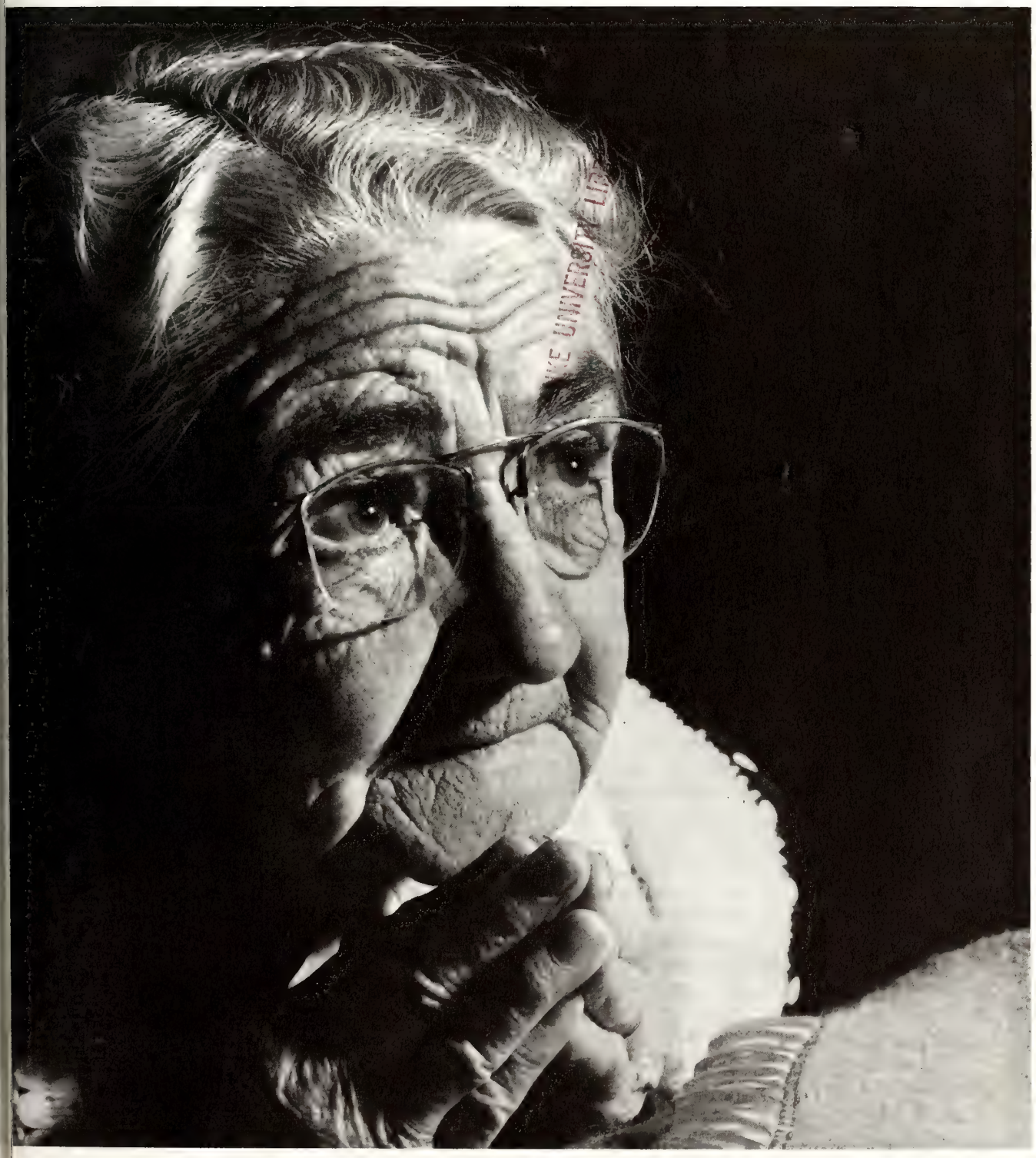
Five Locations to Serve You

Ayden New Bern Smithfield
Wilson Kinston

F857

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



REVIVAL AND PRAYER: THE TWO GO TOGETHER

Is the Romance Over?

Today's church can often be compared to an unloving wife who tries to do her duty, but fails to because she does not love her husband. In other words, today's Christians seem to go through the motions of loving God, but the "feelings of romance" are gone. Some call this backsliding. I wonder if the term "lukewarm" does not better describe the situation.

"Lukewarmness," the state of being neither hot nor cold, manifests itself in many ways. Religious duties become a burden; individuals continue at their tasks because they promised they would, but they have no heart for prayer, worship, giving, witnessing. A lack of interest in God's Word prevails, as does a waning enthusiasm for secret prayer, the conversion of men and women, benevolent enterprises, and missionary work. People are chiefly concerned about themselves. As a result, they possess a censorious spirit that consistently judges the motives of others. Because of the lack of love, there exists a strong tendency to pick at, to criticize, to censure, to be sticky about nonessentials.

Do these characteristics sound familiar? I believe they do, for many who say they love God are lukewarm. Many have unhealthy marriages, neglect spiritual discipline, "love" money, bicker debilitatingly, fail to pray, lack concern for others, make idols of people, complain, lack gratitude, neglect the needy, are complacent . . . . The sad thing is, **we will never experience revival as long as spiritually sick people continue to think they are healthy!**

Perhaps the greatest characteristic of true revival is the overwhelming sense of God's presence. Jonathan Edwards, the great revivalist, said, "When God was so remarkedly present among us, there was no book so delightful as the Bible, no time so prized as the Lord's Day, and no place in this world so desired as God's house." Just think. If our Lord were to physically attend our worship services, immediate differences would be evident. We would place much more emphasis on worship; ours would be a strong conviction regarding the need for holiness. Christian service which is often regarded as mundane would become exciting. Our belief in His Word would be unquestionable; our desire to talk with Him would be greater; our stand against Satan would be unequivocable. A new dimension of love would envelope our congregations. Restoration would be made for past wrongs. There would be an almost turnabout in people's attitudes, for faultfinding and gossiping would be replaced by a renewed interest in missions. Contributions would increase, as would testimonies, tears, and delight.

When revival occurs, God himself takes over the reins of the church; but **revival is not** some manipulated series of meetings scheduled each spring and fall to "recharge the spiritual batteries of people." It does not just happen either—it must be preceded by fervent prayer.

Brothers and sisters, God's presence needs to be felt among us, His people. I cannot help but believe we need revival, and we need it desperately.

Cover Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

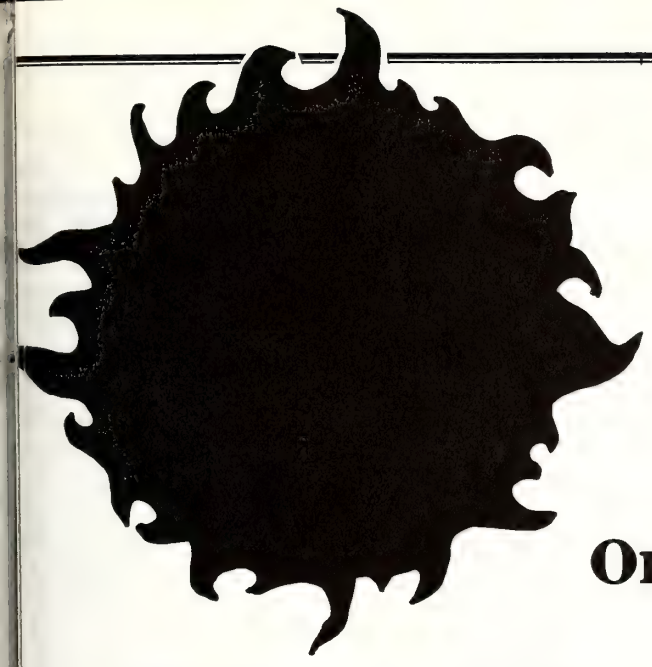
Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Monday—Saturday.

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

One Summer Ministry

What happens to your church program during the summer? Many congregations experience the dreaded "summer slump." Activities are often suspended; or at least, put on the back burner. The morale of church workers sinks; they continuously talk about the fall when "everything picks back up." But, the "good old summertime" does not have to be this way. Churches can use the summer to its greatest potential. What for? To train new teachers. To initiate and intensify discipling programs. For spiritual growth.

Vacation Bible School is one ministry that can help churches do just that. (Don't sigh and say, "Yes, we'll have Bible School—we've always had one.") But in order for this ministry to be an effective one, its possibilities must be realized. Vacation Bible School provides Christians with an opportunity to determine what their gifts are; curriculums are designed to teach the beliefs and doctrines of the church; older teens can learn and begin to develop leadership skills.

Several things must be done for this ministry to be all it can be. First, goals must be set and materials obtained. Then a program or strategy needs to be determined. Perhaps the hardest of all tasks is that of recruiting leaders and workers. People often say they are busy or untalented. But **anybody can** be understanding, support the program, and pray.

Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School materials are ready. The theme of this year's material is **Living for God.** Easy to apply to daily life, this course offers biblical teaching balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.

Discover more about **Living for God** this summer. Attend the area showing nearest you, so you can preview Free Will Baptist materials.

Monday, April 6 — 10:00 a.m.

New Bern Bible and Bookstore
315 Middle Street
New Bern, N.C.

Monday, April 6 — 7:30 p.m.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
811 North Lee Street
Ayden, NC

Tuesday, April 7 — 7:30 p.m.

Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
Route 3 (Black Creek)
Wilson, NC

Friday, April 10 — 7:30 p.m.

Kinston Bible and Bookstore
123 North Queen Street
Kinston, NC

Let's Think About Giving

The most unpopular of all sermons are those that deal with money. It seems as though we all believe "it may be more blessed to give than to receive; but the average man is always willing to let the other fellow have the blessing!" Some say, "there are three kinds of givers—the flint, the sponge, and the honeycomb. To get anything out of the FLINT you must hammer it. And then you get only chips and sparks. To get water out of a SPONGE, you must squeeze it, and the more pressure you use, the more you will get. But the HONEYCOMB just overflows with sweetness."

Free Will Baptists believe that "both the Old and New Scriptures teach Tithing as **God's** financial plan for the support of His work." By adopting the Church Covenant we say, "We will not . . . fail to give according to our ability for the support of the church and all its benevolent work."

It has been suggested that if we "don't give according to our means, God will see that our means are according to our giving." During the times in which we live, it is quite important that we give as we should. The future of many of our programs depends on it.

Below you will find tables ranking the ten churches who gave the most to denominational enterprises during the last two years. Figures were compiled from the 1980 and 1981 editions of the **Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,** so they reflect totals for July 1, 1978—June 30, 1979, from the 1980 edition; and July 1, 1979—June 30, 1980, from the 1981 volume. Realize that it is possible that churches not cited gave more **per capita.**

July 1, 1978—June 30, 1979

Church	Conference	Membership	Contribution	Per Capita
Friendship	C	284	$14,369	$50.60
Living Waters	W	179	14,100	78.77
Stoney Creek	W	388	11,415	29.42
Pleasant Grove	W	253	11,232	44.40
St. Mary's	E	389	10,662	27.40
Winterville	C	241	10,219	42.40
Holly Springs	E	431	9,733	22.58
Little Rock	W	367	9,126	24.87
Hopewell	CF	273	9,122	33.41
Sherron Acres	W	310	8,970	28.94

July 1, 1979—June 30, 1980

Church	Conference	Membership	Contribution	Per Capita
Holly Springs	E	435	14,457	33.23
Friendship	C	294	13,187	44.85
Stoney Creek	W	384	12,317	32.07
Black Jack	C	702	12,068	17.19
Winterville	C	245	11,085	45.24
Spring Hill	W	138	10,525	76.26
Pleasant Grove	W	241	10,252	42.53
Lee's Chapel	CF	276	9,752	35.33
Sherron Acres	W	311	9,350	30.06
St. Mary's	E	381	8,835	23.18

Our giving "should be based on principle, regulated by system, and beautified by self-sacrifice." May God grant us the spirit of understanding and unselfishness, that we might fulfill our responsibilities.

MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND ADOPTED

In an effort to better serve the ministry and laity of our church, the Board of Superannuation on approval of the Executive Committee of the State Convention has adopted a MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND program for all Free Will Baptist people. This MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND is a program in which the certificate holders constitute the membership and share in the benefits. The FUND will provide hospital and medical benefits for its members.

Sauls' Insurance Agency of Goldsboro, North Carolina, has been secured to administer the MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND program. April 1, 1981, will be the beginning date for this program. Meetings will be held soon in various locations to give information. The Board of Superannuation solicits your cooperation in and prayers for this MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND program.

The Board of Superannuation

NOTICE

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet Monday, April 20, 1981, at 9:30 a.m., in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina. All persons having business with the board please meet with us then. Those wanting to take the examination for ordination may do so at this meeting.

W. H. Willis, *Secretary*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. James Lupton has resigned Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church effective fourth Sunday in June, 1981. His address is P. O. Box 34, Pikeville, North Carolina 27863; and his new phone number is 242-6478.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

1981 Camp Schedule

It's time to begin thinking about summer camp at Cragmont. This year promises to be an exciting one; all types of activities have been planned. And of course, no one can adequately describe the spiritual experience one can receive through the teaching and preaching of the dedicated leaders. Below you will find a list of the conferences you can attend. Pick one out and contact the director of that conference. The cost of camp is $65 (plus any activity fee determined by various directors). Be sure to get your name in early.

GENERAL YOUTH

June 15-20
The Rev. Harry Grubbs, Director
900 Briarcliff Drive
Greenville, NC 27834

Dick Watson, Co-Director
Route 2, Box 607
Wilson, NC 27893

CHRISTIAN CADET

June 22-27
The Rev. Bobby Taylor, Director
Route 6, Box 147-A
Greenville, NC 27834

YOUTH FRONTIER (YFA)

June 29—July 4
The Rev. and Mrs. Scott Sowers, Directors
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER (AFC)

July 6-11
The Rev. and Mrs. Doug Skinner, Directors
Box 117
Grapahoe, NC 28510

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

July 20-23
The Rev. C. H. Overman, Director
101 Stokes Drive
Arden, NC 28513

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 27—August 1
The Rev. J. B. Starnes
3010 Bridges Street
Morehead City, NC 28557

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 3-8
Mrs. Dola Dudley, Director
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, NC 27577

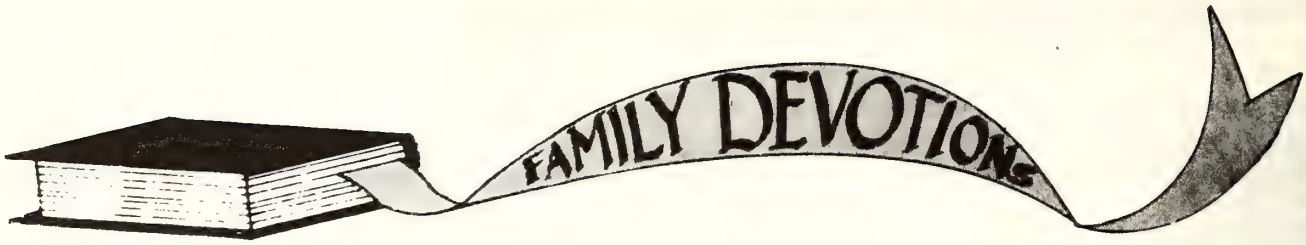
Mrs. Alice Barrow, Registrar
Route 2
Snow Hill, NC 28580

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 10-15
Mrs. Dola Dudley, Director
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, NC 27577

Mrs. Alice Barrow, Registrar
Route 2
Snow Hill, NC 28580





SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Scripture Reading—Matthew 27:11-18

UNWISE TO ENVY OTHERS

In Africa, so the story goes, a native had a prize flock of hens. Dutifully, each hen daily laid a sizable egg. The natives who were not so successful with their flocks eyed their neighbor with envy.

How proud was the rooster of the flock! Ascending to his perch, he would flap his wings vigorously, crow lustily, and look with admiration upon his harem of hens.

One day, the rooster walked through a hole in the enclosure and chanced to find an ostrich egg! He stared incredulously at the enormous egg.

Hurriedly returning to his flock, the rooster exclaimed, "Come, girls! See what others are doing! You must see it to believe it!"

It is unwise for us to look with envy upon what others are doing and to compare our talents and accomplishments with theirs.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible warns us against this, saying: "For we dare not . . . compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves are not wise" (2 Corinthians 10:12).

MONDAY, APRIL 6

Scripture Reading—Romans 3:21-26

SON, REMEMBER

Shakespeare wrote, "To be alone with my conscience is Hell enough for me."

A philosopher said, "Hell is at the end of a misspent life."

Milton said, "Which way is Hell? Myself is Hell."

In Hell, memory is acutely and accusingly alive: "Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted and thou art tormented" (Luke 16:25).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible says, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" (Psalm 9:17).

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

Scripture Reading—Joshua 24:1-25

"IT IS HARD TO GROW OLD ALONE"

Many years ago, H. P. Danks wrote a song which brought fame and fortune to him: *Silver Threads Among the Gold.*

When he wrote the song, Danks and his wife were deeply devoted to each other. They were very poor, and their poverty seemed to draw them closer together. He expressed his love and devotion to her in these words:

"Darling, I am growing old,
Silver threads among the gold;
But, my darling, you will be,
Always young and fair to me."

Fame and fortune brought discord and unhappiness. Danks and his wife separated and their home was broken up. Years later, Danks was found dead, kneeling beside his bed in a cheap boarding house in Philadelphia. On the bed lay an old copy of his famous song—*Silver Threads Among the Gold.* Across it, he had scrawled the pathetic, forlorn words, "It is hard to grow old alone!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth . . . (Joshua 24:14).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

Scripture Reading—Psalm 103:1-11

THANK GOD!

How productive of gratitude is the thought expressed on a church bulletin board: "No one gets all he deserves! Thank God!"

God, in mercy, "hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities" (Psalm 103:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:12).

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Scripture Reading—2 Thessalonians 3

UNWANTED LEISURE

After Sir Winston Churchill was removed from his post as First Lord of the Admiralty in 1915, he grew restless in his inactivity. Said he dejectedly, "I have nothing to do. How terrible it would be to get resigned to such a state as this. I have long hours of utterly unwanted

leisure in which to contemplate the unfolding of the war."

PRAYER THOUGHT

And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ (2 Thessalonians 3:5).

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 5

FINGER IN EVERY PIE

On the local church level, there is no greater evidence of weakness and spiritual pride, to say nothing of organizational inefficiency, than to see the pastor running everything—attending, initiating, invocating, benedicting. This creates all kinds of lay-clergy tensions and causes the thinking layman to throw up his hands in despair. The pastor must see that he is not a one-man band. But he is not to be relegated to second fiddle. He is to fulfill the job which the Bible so clearly calls him to fulfill.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Feed the flock of God . . . taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind: Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock (1 Peter 5:2, 3).

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:24-34

ONLY ONE SUIT

A newspaper account of the death of a socially prominent woman in France stated that she was "the best dressed woman in Europe." Her wardrobe contained one thousand dresses. What could be more frustrating than to have to decide each day and evening which one of a thousand dresses should be worn!

When William Booth died, he had only one suit and a red cap. But he had to his credit thousands of transformed lives, and he had won the enduring soul-winner's "crown of rejoicing" (see 1 Thessalonians 2:19).

PRAYER THOUGHT

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

Pastor of the Week

The Rev. Clifton Styron

Pilgrims Rest Free Will Baptist Church, Carteret County, Cedar Island, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Clifton Styron. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A MAN OF LEADERSHIP

submitted by Mattie Day Daniels



The Rev. Clifton Styron

Pilgrims Rest Free Will Baptist Church at Cedar Island, Carteret County, North Carolina, is proud to have as its pastor, the Rev. Clifton Styron. It is a very small church in number, but large at getting things done under the leadership of Mr. Styron.

Mr. Styron was born July 24, 1924, at Davis, in Carteret County, to Roy and Mary Davis Styron. He attended school at Davis and at Smyrna High School.

On May 28, 1946, he was married to Violet Lane Willis of Davis. To this union were born four children; Clifton Jr., Jeffrey, Susan, and Lisa.

During the Second World War, he served from December, 1943 to 1946 in the U. S. Navy.

In 1949, he was ordained as a minister in the Free Will Baptist church.

His first church was at Liberty Free Will Baptist Church at Manning, South Carolina. Other churches he has pastored in Carteret County are Mill Creek, South River, Otway, Sea Level, Sound View; and Croatan in Craven County.

He served as pastor at Cedar Island from June, 1960 to October 1971. Then he was called back to Cedar Island in June, 1975, where he is at the present time. The church has prospered under his leadership. We folks at Pilgrims Rest would not have it any other way.

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

A POINT OF DECISION

by Calvin R. Mercer, Jr.



Standing from left to right are Frank Harrison, College Chaplain; the Rev. Ray Wells; and Nancy Boykin, a sophomore at the College and member of Marsh Swamp church. (Photo by Teresa Pittman.)

The choice of obedience to God over the reason of the world is a decision everyone has to make at various times in their life, the Rev. Ray Wells said recently in a Mount Olive College chapel service. Mr. Wells is pastor of the Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County.

Drawing on Matthew 26:42, Mr. Wells pointed out how Jesus had to face just such a decision in Gethsemane. "Jesus was young, He loved life, and His work had just begun. The world's reason said go back to Galilee and don't die."

"But on the other side was the will of God," Mr. Wells said, emphasizing, though, that the Cross was not a foregone conclusion but rather a struggle for Jesus.

Mr. Wells spoke of Jesus' "agony of decision" in His obedience to God's voice rather than the logic of the world. In Gethsemane we see Jesus not as a "puppet," but rather as a flesh and blood man struggling with His decision.

"You and I have those same Gethsemane points," he said. "It will often be a time when the logic of the world says wait and consider the consequences. But the small voice will tell you what to do."

Mr. Wells told the students that there would be many such Gethsemane points in their lives. "The choice may not be between life and death like that of Christ. But, it is no less important because what you do at this point will determine what you are and whose you are—whether you belong to the world or to God."

As with Jesus, Mr. Wells said, our Gethsemane point will often be a time of loneliness when friends may not be much help and when we have self-doubt.

"But most of all it will be a time when reason and obedience cannot be reconciled. You must follow God or man, but you cannot follow both at the Gethsemane points."

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion).

JOANN HINES PENNINGTON JOINS COLLEGE STAFF



JoAnn Hines Pennington

JoAnn "Jo" Hines Pennington was recently appointed to the position of gift records secretary, announced Mount

Olive College President Dr. W. Burkette Raper. She will be working jointly with the Office of the President and the Development Office.

Mrs. Pennington graduated from Mount Olive College in 1978 and received a B.S. degree in accounting from Atlantic Christian College in May, 1980. She is married to a former MOC student, Robert W. Pennington, and they reside in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM SUNDAY

The "New Creations," a Christian witnessing team from Mount Olive College which travels throughout the state presenting programs of gospel music, is scheduled to perform at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown, on Sunday, April 5, at 11 a.m.; and at Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Ahoskie at 7 p.m., also on April 5.

The Rev. Marvin R. Waters, pastor of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church; and the Rev. Robert M. May, pastor of Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, invite the public to attend these services and hear the message that these Mount Olive College students have to share.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

Members of the Advisory Committee on Ministerial Education at Mount Olive College are shown prior to beginning their work at a meeting on February 26. (From left to right.)

Seated: N. B. Barrow of Snow Hill, representing the Central Conference; DeWayne Eakes of Lucama, representing the Western Conference and chairman of the Committee; Michael R. Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College and secretary to the Committee.



Standing: Opey Jeanes, vice president-dean of the College; Ray Wells of Sims, representing the Home Mission Board; David W. Hansley of LaGrange, representing the Eastern Conference; Frank R. Harrison, chaplain of the College; and W. Burkette Raper, College president.

Members not present at the time the picture was made include: Marvin Waters of Pinetown, representing the Albemarle Conference; L. B. Woodall Jr. of Princeton, representing the Cape Fear Conference; Joseph H. Ingram of Goldsboro, representing the Foreign Mission Board; David C. Hansley of Wilson, representing the State Convention; Eugene Sumner of Raleigh, representing the College Board of Trustees; and Donald Coats of Blakely, Georgia, representing the Paul Palmer Conference; and representatives from the Pee Dee and Piedmont Conferences.

The Committee is studying a four-year curriculum for ministerial students and others who plan to enter church-related vocations. The curriculum will include Biblical Studies, Historical Studies, Theology, Philosophy, Ethics, and Practical Studies in Christian Education, the Pastoral Ministry, Sermon Preparation and Delivery, Missions, Evangelism, Christian Worship, Church Administration and an internship in the ministry. Undergirding these studies will be the basic liberal arts curriculum of the College.

Specific considerations are to give students a knowledge of the Scriptures with a Biblical and historical background adequate for a true understanding and proper interpretation of the Bible, a knowledge and appreciation for the history, doctrine and government of the Free Will Baptist Church, an understanding of both historical and contemporary theological thought, and the practical knowledge and skills to effectively serve a church or to fulfill one's Christian calling in other areas of service.

"One of the primary purposes for the development of Mount Olive into a four-year college is to enable us to better serve the Free Will Baptist Church in the area of ministerial education," President Raper declared.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. W. H. Willis announces that he will be available to supply for any minister who cannot fill his pulpit due to sickness, or vacation, etc., and to help any church that he can as of July 1, 1981. He may be reached by calling 523-4098, or writing 1121 Dunn Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

NEWS & NOTES

SHADY GROVE CHURCH HAS BIBLE BOWL QUIZ WINNERS



The AFC and YFA youth groups of Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina, were winners in the Bible Bowl Quiz given at the Cape Fear District Youth Rally held on March 7, 1981. The rally was held at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church.

The AFC team consisted of Paul Surles, Stephanie Butler, and Mark Tilton Godwin, with Kelly Crumpler as alternate. The team they defeated was from Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church.

The YFA team was composed of Timmy Jernigan, Michelle Lockamy, and Chad Jackson, with Raleigh Walker as alternate. The YFA's were uncontested.

In April the teams will compete at the State level to be held at Lenoir Community College in Kinston. From there the winners will compete at the General Conference.

Each year the questions are taken from a source announced at the rallies and the churches are urged to get their young people involved.

The youth leaders are Mrs. Ruth Scarborough, Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan, and Mrs. Linda Jackson. The pastor, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough, encourages the young people and gives them praises for the job they are doing.

Spring Revival at Sweet Gum Grove Church

The Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, will hold its spring revival, April 6 through April 11, at 7:30 p.m. with the Rev. Bobby Futrell as evangelist. There will be a nursery provided, a story hour for ages 1 through 3, and a children's church for ages 4 through 8. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. David Hill is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy these services with the congregation of the church.

Revival Services in Progress at Friendship Church

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Trenton, North Carolina, is having a week of revival services through April 3, at 7:30 each evening. The visiting evangelist is the Rev. Leon Grubbs, pastor of Hull Road church, Route 2, Snow Hill, North Carolina. The people of Friendship church invite "whosoever will" to come and worship in the remainder of these services. The pastor of the Friendship church is the Rev. Joey Crumpler.

Mount Tabor Church to Have Revival Services

Revival services will be held April 1 through April 4, at the Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church near Creswell, North Carolina. Services will begin each night at 8 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Ronnie Mohn of Cape Colony Mission, Edenton, North Carolina. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Singspiration at Tee's Chapel Church

Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina, invites everyone to attend a singspiration on Sunday, April 5, at 7 p.m. Different groups of the church will be doing the singing.

Reedy Branch Church Is Remodeled

In the middle of January, the members of Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church voted to remodel the interior of their church. The steeple had to be repaired and a new ceiling was needed. The interior needed painting and beautiful new red carpet was to be installed. An

anonymous donor gave seven chandeliers, floodlights and spotlights. New red choir robes were also contributed. The Rev. Willis Wilson and many of the members did a lot of the work.

The church was finished in time for a wedding ceremony on March 6.

After being out of the church for five Sundays, Mr. Wilson held a consecration service on March 8. Six new members came into the church that Sunday.

A former pastor's wife, Mrs. Henry Melvin, and her daughter were present for the event. The late Rev. Henry Melvin held the last consecration service in 1959.

The church members are very proud of their newly remodeled sanctuary. The church is located on Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina.

Revival Services to Be Held at Tee's Chapel Church

Revival services will begin at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on Monday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Arnold Price, pastor of Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Erwin, North Carolina, will be the speaker.

Special singing is planned each evening Monday through Friday nights. The Rev. T. C. Warmer is pastor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

The church is located 8 miles East of Smithfield on the Progden Road.

Union Chapel Church Announces Revival Services

Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, North Carolina, announces revival services, April 6-10, at 7:45 p.m. The Rev. Jimmie Barfield, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Walton E. Parrish is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

(Continued on Page 15)

"The Way I See It"

"Help, I'm Hurt"

by C. H. Overman

Imagine the scene! A regular business meeting is being held at the Third Church on the corner of Fellowship and Unity Streets. For six months a committee of three, duly chosen by the church, has been working and planning on a new church budget. They are proud of the work they have done. To their surprise, however, their new budget proposal is not received and they are asked to revise it and bring it back at the next business meeting. Two committeemen are willing to accept the wishes of the church; but the other one takes offense. Some of the suggested changes he cannot accept. "I don't think we should include that Camp in our budget," he laments. Or, "I don't think we should pay the pastor's mileage to the Convention." For whatever the reason, our dear committeeman is "hurt." He resigns from the committee and vows that he will never serve on another committee. "From now on," he states, "I'll attend the services once in a while, but that's all."

If one is to walk the strait and narrow, then he must be prepared for some knocks and bumps; and at some time or another cry out, "Help, I'm hurt!" But what does one do when hurt? Quit? Give up? Become bitter? Of course, there are many options; but most of them are wrong. Was Christ our Saviour not hurt many times? Surely His greatest inward hurt was summed up in the words of John: "He came unto his own and his own received him not" (John 1:11). But our Saviour did not resign or quit. He pressed on toward the ultimate fulfillment of His Father's will.

To be hurt and then to quit is the easy way out. Wounds do heal if the body is normal, and the scars that are produced are reminders of the battle. Many of our hurts, however, are brought on by our own vulnerability. Our very attitude concerning Christian commitment (or lack of it) is often the reason that we feel hurt. If the heart and mind are not normal in attitude and principle, then it is not likely that the injury or hurt will be healed. Sadly, such a one ends up living in bitterness, enmity, or even hatred.

It is the true Christian's responsibility to offer help and the means of healing, namely, through Jesus Christ and the practice of the law of love. Even so, we may not be able to change the course of the human heart, especially if such a "hurt" person believes he is right and all others are wrong. It simply seems that there are those who delight in licking their wounds and thus shouting, "Help, I'm hurt!" and at the same time delighting in their position of neutrality or opposition to those who are continuing to do battle. Usually those who are problems to others have problems within themselves.

The way I see it, I'm thankful that my Saviour didn't quit when He was "wounded" or "hurt." He did at times change His area of service, but He didn't quit. And something else, dear "hurt" Christian, if you cannot find forgiveness in your own heart, if you cannot "forgive those who trespass against you," and you cannot do anything but gripe and complain against those who have supposedly hurt you, then for the sake of your own soul and for the sake of Christian unity among God's people, try to find a fellowship in which you can benefit! At least, "That's the way I see it."

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For April 12

THEY CRUCIFIED HIM

Lesson Text: Matthew 27:33-50
Memory Verse: Matthew 27:54

I. INTRODUCTION

A missionary once entered an African village and gained an audience with the chief and his advisers. As a result, the missionary was given permission to speak to the whole village. The villagers sat in rapt attention as the missionary began to tell them the story of Jesus' life, His ministry, miracles, and teachings. However, when he came to the Crucifixion, the chief interrupted with a loud shout: "No! No! It is not right to kill a good man." Then to accent his point, he beat upon the ground with his heavy spear as he continued, "If I had been there, I would have stopped it. I would have scattered these soldiers like so many leaves, and I would have taken Him down off the Cross!"

We can understand how a person from a savage and primitive background might react in this fashion. But that raises another question. How would we have reacted had we been at the scene of the Crucifixion? We certainly feel ourselves too sophisticated to respond as did the African chief, but just what would we have done? Would we have treated it with indifference, all a part of a day's work, as did the Roman soldiers? Or would we have stood with the crowd that jeered? Or with the religious leaders who rejoiced because a threat to their religious monopoly was being eliminated? Many of us would have fled in fear as did most of the disciples, or at least viewed the proceedings from a safe distance.

Hopefully, a few might have stood at the foot of the Cross with the loyal women and sorrowed, not understanding entirely what was happening but faithful to the end.

Between last week's lesson and today's lesson, a great deal has taken place. Jesus had eaten the Passover with His disciples and instituted the Lord's Supper. Following this came His prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, the betrayal of Judas, and His arrest by the guards. He had been tried before the religious leaders, Pilate, and Herod. Even as His followers had denied Him or fled in fear, He was being scourged and scorned and readied for the Crucifixion.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

After Pilate delivered Jesus to the Roman soldiers, the Crucifixion followed immediately. Two thieves were crucified with Jesus. This increased the shame of His death and suggested guilt by association. Moreover, it was a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. The place of the Crucifixion was a lonely barren hill outside the city of Jerusalem. The fact that the Crucifixion was outside of the city is also a fulfillment of prophecy. **—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. On this Palm Sunday millions of Christians are gathering in their churches throughout the world, giving thanks to God for the victory at Calvary, and pausing to praise God that through the crucified Christ they have life eternal. At this point we recall what the great preacher of another generation, Phillips Brooks, once said: "The great Easter truth is not that we are to live newly after death—that is not the great thing—but that we are to be here and now by the power of the Resurrection; not so much that we are to live forever as that we are to, and may, live nobly now because we are to live forever."

B. But we should pause here for another thought: One trouble with many churches and still many more Christians is that too many of us want to have Easter without Calvary. This cannot be, anymore than it was possible in Jesus' day. Jesus had to die to make Easter the most triumphant day in all of history. He had to pass through the valley of death that we might dwell on the mountaintop of life and joy. He had to walk the path of darkness before we could walk in the light which is His life. He had to be crucified so we could be cured of the afflictions of sin. Without Calvary there could have been no Easter.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

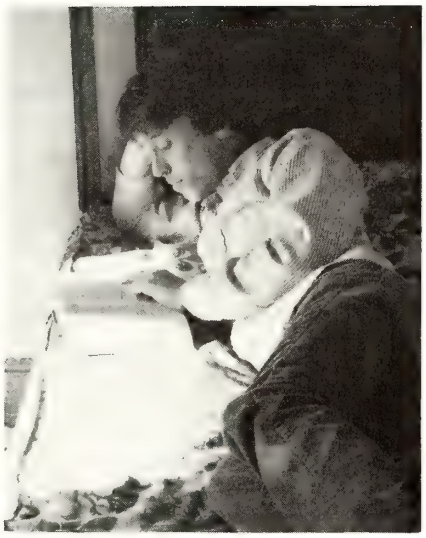
A father received a letter from the government during World War II announcing that his son was killed in action. As he lamented this to his pastor saying, "Where was God when this happened?" the latter said "My dear brother, don't blame God. He loves us. When your son died, God was in the same place that He was when His Son died on the Cross for you and me. We are not to blame God but lay the blame at the door of sin and Satan."—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

"AND THE LORD SHALL PRESERVE THEE"



Tim reads from the book of promises—God's Holy Word. There God promises that Tim's every need will be met if he will trust in Him. Our Lord chose the Twelve to carry on His work. Today He has chosen His church. The Free Will Baptist Church has rallied to God's call throughout the years. As a result, Tim and 42 others have "a Christian home" today, as did nearly 750 children before them.

Free Will Baptist people have faced many challenges through the years. One after the other they faced the challenges of the times and met them. Today the high cost of everything and the possible loss of some public funding that the Home has enjoyed for nearly 10 years brings a new challenge.

Our churches have been challenged to give $9.75 per member for the last several years. Systematically the administration of the Children's Home has reduced the budget as the numbers of children in care were reduced.

However, the high cost of fuel, food and virtually every necessity of life is making the budget a cause of great concern. Coupled with inflated costs, public funds for child care are being trimmed or completely cut out. The 43 children in our care today will all be with us for some time to come. To ensure that none of them have to be prematurely discharged, sent back to a bad home situation, or turned over to the county, our people must respond **now!** Each church should strive for a goal of 18-20 dollars per member.

There is no price too high to pay. Free Will Baptist people are wonderfully blessed. If we pledge to God that Tim and the 42 other children in our care will never have to worry about a home, God will bless us beyond measure. Twenty dollars per member will be an easy mark if we look to God as our provider.

MRS. MAYBELLE TYNDALL HONORED

by Mrs. Emily Long

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, North Carolina, honored Mrs. Maybelle Tyndall with the Woman of the Year Award, on March 1, 1981, during the morning worship hour. Mrs. Marie Joyner, auxiliary president, presented the award to Mrs. Tyndall after reading the following summary of her life to the congregation.

Mrs. Tyndall was born September 16, 1907, in Edgecombe County. She has spent all of her life around Tarboro except for a brief period when she lived in Virginia.

She was married to Mr. Eddie Tyndall in 1925 and from that union five children were born. They are Mrs. Letha Jefferson of Fountain, Mr. Alvis Tyndall of Farmville, Mrs. Gertie Cauley of Tarboro, Mr. Eddie Tyndall of Rocky Mount, and Mrs. Darlene Norville of Fountain. She has eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



Mrs. Tyndall accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour when she was fourteen years old. She was an active member of Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church. She was a teacher in the Junior Department for two years, a member of the choir, and the Sunday school treasurer.

In 1937, after twelve years of marriage, Mr. Tyndall was killed in an accident. Mrs. Tyndall then had the responsibility of raising her children by share-cropping. Her daughter comments she has never heard her mother complain about anything, and always did what she had to, looking to God for guidance.

About 25 years ago, Mrs. Tyndall moved her membership to the First church of Tarboro and became busy in it. She became a Sunday school teacher of primary age classes, she was president of the local Woman's Auxiliary and served as church clerk. She is a member of the

(Continued on Page 14)

News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

How Can I Help Get State Cottage for the Retired Ready for Service?

You may:

1. Sponsor the total cost of the program, $45,000, and thereby provide for your own future. Each month one half the cost of care would be amortised from your initial investment providing care for 10 years. At that time, the resident would begin paying the current monthly rate.
2. One could sponsor the cost of a room, $3,750. One half the monthly rate would be charged for the first year of care and the current monthly rate thereafter.
3. Donors of $1,000 or more would become Founders and their names will be placed on an appropriate plaque in the entrance of the building.
4. Donors of $100 or more would be listed as "Contributing Friends." A plaque recognizing these donors will be erected in an appropriate place in the Cottage.

Churches and church groups may sponsor rooms in the cottage for $3,750. An appropriate plaque will be placed in that room recognizing the gift.

Everyone who participates, regardless of the amount, will be listed in the Register of Sponsors and Visitors which will lie open in the foyer of the Cottage at all times.

Gifts of real estate, stocks, bonds, insurance policies, and other items of value can save taxes for the donor now and provide for a portion of one's care upon retirement. For instance, a substantial gift now would be amortised over a period of time upon admittance of the donor to the Retirement Homes and would pay for one half the monthly cost of care. Once the initial gift has been consumed the retiree would then begin to pay the prevailing monthly rate.

A representative for the Retirement Homes will be glad to call on you and discuss how you can plan for your retirement.

MRS. MAYBELLE TYNDALL HONORED

(Continued from Page 13)

Goodwill Circle and helped with Vacation Bible School for many years.

About two years ago, Mrs. Tyndall had a serious illness and has not been able to be active as she once was.

In Proverbs, Chapter 31, it tells of a faithful woman and I feel that this describes our honoree. The Woman's Auxiliary takes great pleasure in presenting this honor to Mrs. Maybelle Tyndall. God bless you is our prayer.

CAPE FEAR WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TO MEET

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Newton Grove, North Carolina, on April 8, 1981. The theme will be "And He Shall Come Again." The Scripture will be taken from Matthew 24:36, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "O Worship the King"
—Devotion, Mrs. Braston Herring
—Welcome, Mrs. Graham Creech
—Response, Mrs. Pauline Sills
10:20—President's Remarks, Mrs. Bernice Godwin
—Reading of Minutes, Mrs. Jane Parker
—Roll Call
—Appointment of Committees
10:45—Hymn, "I Am Thine O Lord"
—Report of Children's Home
—Report of Foreign Missions
—Offering
11:15—Special Music, Host Church
—Convention Message, the Rev. T. C. Farmer

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Glory to His Name"
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Ruth Warrick
1:20—Reports:
—Youth Chairman
—Mount Olive College
—Home Missions
—Free Will Baptist Press
—Cragmont Assembly
—Superannuation
2:00—Business Session
—Installation Service, Mrs. John Taylor
—Hymn, "Take My Life and Let It Be"
—Adjournment
—Benediction

ALBEMARLE DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TO MEET

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pantego, North Carolina, on

Thursday, April 16, 1981. The theme will be "Crucified with Christ." The Scripture will be taken from Galatians 2:20, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live: yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "The Old Rugged Cross"
—Devotions, Mrs. Juanita Nooney
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Louise Stotesberry
—Response, Mrs. Clara Phelps
—President's Greetings, Miss Becky Jo Sumner
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointments of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Mission News
—Offering for Missions
—Hymn, "Jesus Paid It All"
11:05—Children's Home and Retirement Homes News
—Offering for Children's Home
11:20—Special Music, Host Auxiliary
11:30—Message, the Rev. Philip Boykin
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:00—Hymn, "He Lives"
1:05—Devotions, Mrs. Estell West
—Prayer
1:15—Mount Olive College News
1:30—Cragmont News
1:45—News from the Press
2:00—Youth Report, Mrs. Steve Hargrove
—Committee Reports
—Treasurer's Report
—Announcements of Next Convention
—Miscellaneous Business
—Benediction and Adjournment

News from the

STATE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE BOARD

The North Carolina State Layman's League Board and their wives will meet at King's Barbecue in Kinston, North Carolina, April 3, at 7:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to make plans for a more active Laymen's League work statewide. The board is anxious to help churches organize new men's groups and to assist the Leagues of the various conferences to organize on the district level. As more District League Conventions are organized, our goal is to organize a State Layman's League Convention.

Already, the Layman's League Convention of the Central Conference meets quarterly. In addition to these business and fellowship meetings, they sponsor a two-night singspiration each fall and spring with an average attendance of about two hundred each night. Each year the offerings go for a different denominational enterprise.

The Layman's League is composed of men organized to serve the Lord. On the district and state levels, a new spirit of brotherhood and fellowship is anticipated. Just as the Woman's Auxiliary, the Youth Convention, the Free Will Baptist League, and the Sunday School Convention have been used of the Lord, and provide opportunities for Christian service. We feel the Layman's League provides a special opportunity for Free Will Baptist men to work together in fellowship with God.

Rex Wainright, *Reporter*
C. L. Patrick, *Advisor*

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 11)

Film to Be Shown At Rose of Sharon

"Reflections of His Love," a new film highlighting the life and ministry of Joni Eareckson, will be shown Sunday, April 5, at Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, Bear Grass, North Carolina. The color feature, produced by the film ministry of the Billy Graham Association, will be shown at 7 p.m.

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor, and the church membership invite everyone to attend.

COMING EVENTS

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 4—Alumni Day at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina; annual banquet at 5:30 p.m. on the downtown campus

April 4—Albemarle District Youth Convention, St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina; registration at 9:30 a.m.

April 11—State Sunday School Convention, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina; registration at 9 a.m., convention convenes at 9:20 a.m.

April 11—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, 10 a.m.

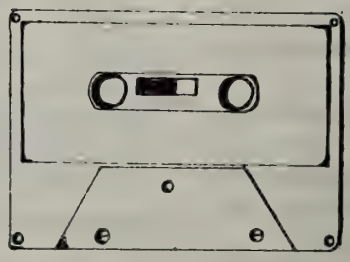
April 25—State Youth Convention, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina, 9:30 a.m.

April is Home Missions Month

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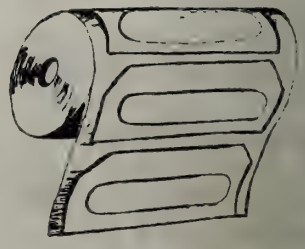
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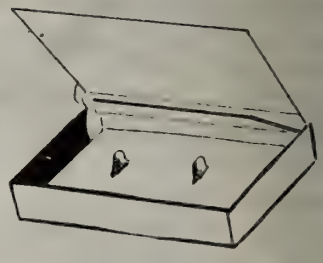


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The Free Will Baptist

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604 East Ash Street
Goldsboro, North Carolina
Norman Ard, Pastor



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CHURCH OF THE MONTH

At the Passing of a Friend

The Rev. Hubert Burress would always stop by to see me whenever he was at the Press. He would come in and offer me encouragement—the encouragement I needed at the time I seemed to need it the most. Mr. Burress was always anxious to help me with a problem, to tell me a joke, to ask how my back was doing. He cared about me—but he cared about everyone with whom he came into contact; and we are going to miss him.

To say the very least, Mr. Burress was very active; I believe he was one of the busiest men in our denomination. He possessed an untiring zeal that evidenced itself in his every undertaking. Ministering to the needs of others was so much a part of his life that it almost seemed to be second nature to him. Mr. Burress considered the things of God to be "of utmost importance and acted accordingly"; he handled Christian affairs simply and reverently, and expected others to do the same.

Mr. Burress has been called "a man always about his Father's business"; and so he was. During the years of his ministry, he served the denomination in many ways. At the time of his passing, he was secretary of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and treasurer of Church Finance Association.

When he died, Mr. Burress was serving as pastor of Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Fountain, North Carolina, a position he ably held for nearly ten years. His major concern was that others would come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. More than a capable leader, he would always say, "Let's do!" rather than "Do!" He worked continually toward the expansion of Aspen Grove church and our denomination. His parishioners were the first to laud him, for he took the concerns of people to heart and helped bear others' burdens. Needless to say, he and Mrs. Burress made an untiring team.



The Rev. J. Hubert Burress died Tuesday, March 31, in Wilson County Memorial Hospital, Wilson, North Carolina. He was 56. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 2, at 3 p.m. at Aspen Grove church. Burial followed at Queen Ann Cemetery, Fountain. He is survived by his wife, Madelyn; one daughter, Carolyn of Thomasville; one son, Hubert Steve of Pinetops; and one grandchild.

Our hearts go out to the family in genuine compassion and we pray for God's special grace for them in these days of poignant grief, for these days will not be easy ones, but we have an ever-present source of strength.

May we all be strengthened, for wonder of wonders, miracle of miracles—the corruptible has become incorruptible; that which was imperfect has now been made perfect!

Cover Photo by Scott Sowers

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Volume 96 Number 14

April 8, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Church of the Month

History of First Free Will Baptist Church of Goldsboro

by Hazel Casey

LOCAL history of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro began in 1908, when the Rev. Frank Casey began having services in a house on Simmons Street. The first meeting was held on October 24, 1908. Some of the first officers elected to the church were as follows: Clerk—Susan Denning; Deacons—Ef. Phipps and W. H. Waters; and Deaconess—Mrs. Elizabeth Waters. There were 19 charter members at the time of the church's organization. In just a short while, the number had been increased to 35. Interest was high in obtaining a building to worship God in; and in 1910 the first church was built on the corner of Lionel and Simmons Streets.

A dark day for the church arose on Sunday afternoon, November 7, 1954, when the sanctuary burned to the ground. The church did not carry enough insurance to fully cover the loss of the church, thus it became necessary to raise lots of money in order to rebuild. The ambitious congregation was always willing and ready to work for the improvement of their church. Ladies, particularly, worked hard in arranging seasonal dinners. Even the children had a part, as they delivered and sold baked goods from their wagons. The flour was donated, and the women did the baking. The women also helped with cleaning the mortar from the bricks in order that they could be sold. Only a few things were salvaged—some pews, some chairs, and the bell.

The determined congregation began to hold services in the William Street school building, and then later on, they moved into the educational building of the old Presbyterian church.

The membership, around 200, continued their fund-raising campaign, and during this time, they sold their old parsonage and bought a new one.

In 1955, the church bought the B. G. Thompson property on Ash Street, and after some remodeling, began to hold services in the house which had served as a private home for Mr. Thompson. The congregation still had a dream, and continued to work until this dream became a reality.

A ground breaking service was held October 4, 1964. The late James Pierce, first chairman of the building committee, turned the first shovelful of earth where the sanctuary was to stand. On March 31, 1966, the actual construction was begun.

On September 11, 1966, a cornerstone laying service was held on the corner of the sanctuary. Those taking part in the service were Wilber Shirley, chairman of the building committee; Charlie Malpass; and Roy Bailey, co-chairman. Also taking part were Ralph Williford, and Mr. Ben Boyette Sr., contractor for the sanctuary. The Rev. Walter Reynolds, a former pastor who had just become manager of the Press in Ayden, was also in attendance; along with the pastor, the Rev. James Evans.

On October 9, 1979, a mortgage burning took place after the church had made a special effort to pay off the debt early. The debt was paid off in 13 years, 7 years before the note's maturity. Jimmy Malpass headed up a fund-raising campaign to pay off the indebtedness, which raised $30,603.53 in one year, making this possible.

This was indeed a happy day for the congregation, and we just praise God that He has been with us here at the church, and has made all this possible. Throughout these years of changing conditions, the church realized that our mission was to witness, and we have put this into practice within the many ministries which we participate in. The Woman's Auxiliary of the church sponsors a jail ministry and has done so for four years. Visits are made weekly to inmates and the Word is read, and prayer and counseling are given. They distribute around 12,000 pieces of literature, along with Bibles each

Turn the Page

year to inmates. Many inmates have been won to Christ through this unique ministry, sometimes as many as 12 a month. The inmates often become interested in spiritual things when they are confined to their cell blocks, and as they read the materials we give them, God blesses the written Word, and souls are won to His Kingdom.

The Woman's Auxiliary has sponsored a ministry to the local nursing home for the past four years. They have sponsored birthday parties for the patient/residents. Visitation on a one-to-one basis has been carried on and many of these people do not have any visitors except us. Christmas gifts have been solicited for all of the 165 patient/residents there, and special entertainment has been provided at the Christmas parties for the wheelchair patient/residents.

However, the church has not lost sight of its main emphasis, reaching the lost and building God's Kingdom. During the past year, 18 members were added to the church. The Rev. Norman Ard and his wife, Margaret, are doing the pastoral work at the church now, and we feel really fortunate to have these dedicated people to lead us.

The church is in a campaign for the building fund now to raise money to build a new educational building to replace the present one which was built in 1918. Since October 1979, when the note was paid off on the sanctuary, the local congregation has raised some $40,000 on the new educational building. A committee is working on the plans for this new facility, and the chairman, Wilber Shirley, hopes to have some concrete plans to present to the church soon.

Our church has made some valuable contributions all over the world through some of its members. We would like everyone to know that we are so proud of our own—Taylor Hill. When he left our church and went to Fayetteville, North Carolina, there was no Free Will Baptist Church there affiliated with the State Convention. Taylor went to work and organized a church, his first mission. Through the efforts he put forth, 12 mission churches have been organized under our Home Missions program which he has headed up. Yes, we at First Church of Goldsboro take our hats off to Taylor for a job well done.

Another couple of our church members, the Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Timmons, along with daughter, Elizabeth, are serving as foreign missionaries in Mexico. We are proud of you too, the Timmonses.

Still another of our former pastors, Edward Miles and his wife, Bessie, served as foreign missionaries to the Philippines. We are glad to have known you, Ed and Bessie, and are proud of your devoted service on the mission fields.

We cannot leave out our present pastor, the Rev. Norman Ard. He serves on the Foreign Mission Board, and has made two trips to the mission fields in the Philippines along with his wife, Margaret. So you see, our church has served as a lifeline to many people in all walks of life.

The pastors who have served the church since its organization are: the Revs. Frank Casey, Bill Everette, Thomas Beamon, Press Parks, Lonnie Ennis, J. C. Griffin, R. E. Tripp, Bob Self, J. H. Strickland, and Ralph Askew. During the time that Mr. Askew was pastor of the church, a split occurred. Mr. Askew left the church and organized Tabernacle church. The Rev. G. C. Joyner came next to help the church in this trying time. Following him were: the Revs. J. R. Davidson, C. B. Thompson, Randall Bennett, Walter Jordan, Albert Harris, Rashie Kennedy, Walter Reynolds, C. H. Overman, Ralph Osborn, and Frank Davenport. During the time that Mr. Davenport was pastor, the church split, and he left and organized Faith Free Will Baptist Church.

The Rev. James Evans followed Mr. Davenport, and he was instrumental in getting the church back to normal again, and in also building a sanctuary to worship in. Next came the Revs. Edward Miles, David Hansley, and Earl Glenn. The Rev. Norman Ard is the present pastor.

Although the church experienced a fire that destroyed the sanctuary, and also two splits in its membership, these setbacks only caused those left behind to grow in faith and to strive harder to serve God in greater ways, and to build God's church of believers.

NEW BERN BIBLE AND BOOKSTORE

Located at 315 Middle Street New Bern, North Carolina Will Celebrate Its Eleventh Anniversary April 14, 1981

A select group of cards 20% off that day

Mrs. Ellen Dixon, bookstore manager, invites everyone to "come by and help us give thanks to our Lord for another year of work for Him."

"SKETCHES" OF RELIGION IN AMERICA

Elias Hutchins In North Carolina

by the Rev. Edmundo G. Gonzalez



ON Thursday, July 8, 1830, Elias Hutchins crossed the Ohio River at Fredricksburg, Kentucky, and resumed his evangelistic work among the Freewill churches of Indiana and Ohio.

He did not, however, forget his friends in North Carolina. Hutchins' work by now had become a part of the history of the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

In the autumn of 1830, the annual Conference met at Grimsley meeting house in Greene County. Hutchins was unable to attend, but sent a letter which the Conference ordered published in its minutes. In this letter he mentions the kindness he had received among the churches. Hutchins also carefully described his last work among the Conference churches and encouraged them to renewed efforts. The churches had experienced a prosperity in membership, by God's blessings, they had never known. In the course of five years their membership had grown to 1,900 from only 800! A more than one-hundred percent growth in just five years.

But Free Will Baptists' Northern friend was too kind and faithful to them not to suggest improvements and specially in the practice of temperance:

> Permit me, with a dire sense of unworthiness, to point some evils which have done much harm and from which I pray God ever to keep us. In some places it is often the case that professors (believers) are at sales, elections, courts, shows and stores with little or no business to call them there; and some, on week days, have left the house of God to loiter about places where little else was to be seen but wickedness and revelry.[1]

Hutchins concluded his letter by stating:

> So much evil has resulted from the practice of drinking before going to meeting, and after returning from it, that the churches at Pungo river, as well as many respectable individuals in that part of the country have laid it aside; the bottle is now no longer seen among the things with which friends are entertained. I should rejoice that this laudable effort to suppress intemperance was well seconded by the other churches composing your Conference; and I do hope that an example well worthy of imitation, will be copied by all friends of morality and religion.[2]

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32:1; 33:20-22

BRINGING THE KING BACK

On September 4, 1970, France celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Third Republic. There was one segment of the population, however, which did not join in the celebration—the Royalists, who aspired to restore the monarchy to France. The *Aspects de la France* carried an editorial which read, "One hundred years of the Republic and one hundred years of calamity. Today more than ever before, every thinking patriot, every intelligent (person) can only want to put an end of the long interregnum, where the king's absence has been so cruelly felt!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Myriads of God's children today long for the return and righteous reign of Jesus, as "King of kings, and Lord of lords" (Revelation 19:16b). *The response of many to His sure promise, "Surely I come quickly"* (Revelation 22:20b) *is, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"*

MONDAY, APRIL 13

Scripture Reading—Luke 12:16-21

FULL AND EMPTY CUPS

A Scottish proverb says, "It is more difficult to carry a full cup than an empty one."

How tragic it is that so many miss God's best because of prosperity. The Bible says of Uzziah, "When he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction" (2 Chronicles 26:16).

Warningly God said to His ancient people, "And when thy . . . silver and thy gold is multiplied . . . Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God" (Deuteronomy 8:13, 14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"If riches increase, set not your heart upon them" (Psalm 62:10b).

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 15:54, 55

THE ULTIMATE IN FOLLY

Said the Greek philosopher Epicurus, "While I am, death is not; and when death is, I am not. Therefore death is no concern to me."

Life is fleeting. It is sheer folly to fail to make peace with God through Jesus Christ—the One who conquered death and gives everlasting life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish" (John 10:28).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 7:14

"O LORD, REVIVE THY WORK"

Genuine revival is always preceded by prayer and ultimates in confession and forsaking of sin.

God gave recently a spiritual awakening to many at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. A group of students and faculty members had been praying for such a revival for more than two years.

For several days the special meetings ran from two to nine hours. Confessions of cheating among students and reconciliations between professors, their families, and ministers' families occurred.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years . . . in wrath remember mercy" (Habakkuk 3:2).

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

Scripture Reading—Psalm 7:1, 2

FROM ABOVE

Nicolas Guiliana of Le Touquet, France, wandered off the shore into the Bay of LaCanche at low tide, unaware of the down-dragging quicksand just ahead. He sank into the quicksand up to his chest.

Dozens of people watched helplessly as he sank, and Guiliana thought all was over for him. Suddenly he heard the roar of a helicopter and a voice shouting, "Grab onto the skids!"

Guiliana grabbed the skids and was carried safely to shore, 200 yards away.

Guiliana's deliverance from physical death came from above. Our deliverance from spiritual death also comes from above.

PRAYER THOUGHT

David said, "I waited . . . for the Lord . . . he heard my cry.

le brought me up . . . out of . . .
ne miry clay" (Psalm 40:1, 2).

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 57:15

A SHORT TIME

Some time ago, *The (London) Daily Mail* warned, "We (the nations) have only a short time to make our peace with each other or to make our peace with God!"

Many of God's children, believe that the cup of man's iniquity is now brimming and that only a worldwide, Heaven-sent revival can avert impending judgment.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psalm 85:6).

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Scripture Reading—John 20:11-18

USELESS TEARS

Mary Magdalene wept because the tomb was empty: "But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping" (John 20:11a). Well might she have wept if the tomb had not been empty!

PRAYER THOUGHT

"And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins . . . . If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable" (1 Corinthians 15:17, 19).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

April is

Home Missions

Month

THE WAY I SEE IT—

Who's In Charge?

by C. H. Overman

In all organizations, large or small, someone has to be in charge; someone has to have the responsibility of seeing that things are properly handled and carried out. A ship must have a captain and an army must have its commander. So it is with the church. We realize, so far as the true church is concerned, that Christ is the Head—He is in charge, or at least we are supposed to allow Him to be. We look to His will and plans for us. But what about each local church, each distinct congregation? When you pass by a church building, or when you enter into a sanctuary, whom do you think of as being in charge? The minister, of course! Very few would imagine it to be otherwise; yet, is such always the case? Do all local congregations allow its minister to exercise his God-called responsibilities?

Now hold on—we want it clearly understood that any pastor is expected to work with all facets of the church; that he is to lead the flock of God and always seek to do those things that please Him. Just suppose, however, that there is a matter that violates Biblical and spiritual principles that the minister cannot condone or overlook? What if he knows that his expressed conviction would arouse the ire of someone (perhaps an outstanding leader) or a group in the church? Does he, by right of his position and calling, have the authority to exert his convictions? Is this what the congregation expects of him? And how many congregations would support him under such circumstances, thus recognizing that they have called, or hired, him to do just that? Would he be true to his own calling if he failed to do so?

What does the Word of God have to say about the position of pastors, or ministers, of the gospel? Have you ever considered the true basis for a minister's preaching? The Apostle Paul spoke to the elders from Ephesus: "Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood" (Acts 20:26-28). Although the apostle was instructing the elders, he was doing so because of his calling. After the instruction was given, the elders were responsible in carrying them out.

The way I see it, the pastor, or minister, is in charge, and the following verses give additional evidence to the fact:

"And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding" (Jeremiah 3:15).

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you" (Hebrews 13:17).

"Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me" (Romans 15:30).

Let your minister be in charge. Work with him. Let him perform the task to which you have called him. And the pastor—let him be an example in word and practice in leading the flock of God as a true shepherd.

NEWS & NOTES

People's Chapel Church Announces Revival Services



The Rev. DeWayne Eakes

People's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Elm City, North Carolina, will have revival services, April 20 through April 25. Services will begin each evening at 7:45. The prayer room will open at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. DeWayne Eakes will be the evangelist. The Rev. Barry L. Gardner is pastor of the church. The public is cordially invited. On Friday night after the services refreshments will be served in the Ferrell Building.

Happenings at Free Union Church

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church near Spring Hope, North Carolina, will be having revival services April 9 through April 11. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m., with prayer room opening at 7:15 p.m. The speaker for this occasion of services will be the Rev. Robert Langley, pastor of Barnes Hill church. Everyone is invited to attend.

On Sunday, March 8, Free Union church presented to Mr. H. C. Morgan and Mr. Coleman Edwards plaques for their long meritorious service as deacons. These were presented as they retired from the deacon board. A plaque was also presented to Mrs. Francis Edwards for 47 years of service as pianist of the church.

Mr. Morgan served 16 years and Mr. Coleman served 12 years as deacons.

King's Cross Roads Church Announces Revival Services

Revival services will be held April 13-17 at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, will be the visiting evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. and there will be special singing nightly.

The church is located three miles off Highway 222 between Falkland and Fountain. The Rev. Bobby Futrell is pastor of the church. The public is invited to attend.

Walnut Creek Church to Have Revival Services

Walnut Creek Free Will Baptist Church has revival services planned for April 15-17. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of LaGrange, North Carolina.

The church is located on state road 1719 between Goldsboro and LaGrange. The Rev. Donald Walston and congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Micro Church Honors Pastor

The Rev. and Mrs. Clyde Cox were honored with a banquet at the Micro Community Building on Sunday, March 8, 1981. Approximately sixty friends and members of Micro Free Will Baptist Church gathered to welcome the pastor and his wife as he assumes the pastorate of the church.

Mrs. Carolyn Hinnant, president of the Ladies Auxiliary, presented Mrs. Cox with a corsage of red camellias and Mr. Cox with a camellia bud.

Mr. Wayne Evans led the invocation and Mr. Carl Bagley, chairman of the deacon board, introduced Mr. Cox. He was originally from Kannapolis and has been a Free Will Baptist minister for twenty-nine years, having pastored from St. Mary's church, New Bern to Pine Level church, Pine Level. Mr. and Mrs. Cox have spent the past five years serving at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina.

Mrs. Cox is the former Mary Smith. She and Mr. Cox have a daughter, Mrs. Sharon Parrish of Selma, North Carolina, and a son, Boyce Cox of Wake County.

On February 21, 1981, Mr. and Mrs. Cox moved into the Micro parsonage with the aid of approximately thirty members and friends of the church. A country-style lunch was prepared by the members of the church for that occasion.

The entire community welcomes its new pastor.

Workshop a Success For Albemarle Conference

A first for the Albemarle Conference came by way of a successful and rewarding combined Sunday school convention and workshop. The event was hosted by the First Free Will Baptist Church of Plymouth, on Friday evening, March 27.

The Rev. F. Joe Griffith, president of the Albemarle Sunday School Convention, served as group leader for the ministers, superintendents, and clerks. Other group leaders included Mrs. Sherry Mohn for the nursery, beginner, primary teachers; Mrs. Peggy Waters for junior, junior high, high

chool teachers; and Miss ecky Jo Sumner for young dults, and adult teachers.

The various churches were ell represented as their inisters, teachers, superintendents, and officers came gether to learn and share eas. The theme for the 1981 orkshop was "Ready to each Others." There was uch emphasis placed on being repared.

The Rev. Paul Melson, chairan of the credentials committe, reported a record attenance of 115.

evival Services to Be eld at Oriental Church

Oriental Free Will Baptist hurch, Oriental, North arolina, announces revival ervices for the week of April 3-17, with services beginning t 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Grady ucker, pastor of Spring Hope hurch near New Bern, will be he guest evangelist. The Rev. alph Sumner, pastor of the hurch, will be assisting in the ervices each evening. A corial invitation is extended to veryone to attend these serices.

iney Grove Church nnounces Services

The Rev. Bruce Barrow joins ith the congregation of Piney rove Free Will Baptist hurch, Albertson, in welcomg everyone to its spring evival, April 13 through April , beginning at 7:30 p.m. each vening. The Rev. Phillip Wood the guest speaker.

An Easter Sunrise Service ill be held at 6 a.m. on the orning of April 19, with the en of the church furnishing reakfast afterwards.

The annual homecoming serice will be on April 26.

evival Services to Be t Otter's Creek Church

Revival services will be held t Otter's Creek Free Will Bapst Church of Route 1, Macesfield, North Carolina. Services will begin on April 13, and will continue through April 17, beginning at 7:30 each evening. The evangelist for the week will be the Rev. Scott Sowers of Farmville, assisted by the Rev. Ralph Aycock, pastor. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend this revival.

Revival Services to Be At Rose Hill Church

Revival services will be held at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, April 13 through April 17. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. C. F. Bowen. There will special singing each evening. The Rev. N. Dan Beamon is pastor of Rose Hill church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services Scheduled At British Chapel Church



The Rev. Kenneth Cloud

Revival services will begin at British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Kinston, Monday night, April 13, and will continue through Friday night, April 17. The evangelist will be the Rev. Kenneth Cloud of Marlington, West Virginia. There will be special singing each night and services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Rev. Bruce Jones, pastor, and the congregation extend to everyone an invitation to attend.

Kenly Church Plans Special Services

Sunday, April 12, will be a special day at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly. The New Creations, a ten-member witnessing team from Mount Olive College, will be singing during the 11 a.m. worship service. The Jerry Taylor Family will present the puppet show, "Noah's Ark," at 7 p.m. The Rev. James Joyner, pastor, and the church congregation invite everyone to join them in these services.

Revival Services Scheduled At Free Union Church

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, will have its spring revival April 13 through April 17, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Harry Jones of Kinston will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music each evening. The pastor, the Rev. David Thick, and the members extend an invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Revival Service to Be At Smith's New Home Church

Revival services will begin Monday night, April 17, at Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church near Deep Run. The services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The pastor, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, and its members extend an invitation to everyone to come and worship. The visiting evangelist will be the Rev. Craig Simmons.

COMING EVENTS

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 25—State Youth Convention, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina, 9:30 a.m.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

WORLD HUNGER PROGRAM AT MOC

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

Twelve thousand people die every day of malnutrition and disease. That fact, and what Christians can do about it was the theme of a recent chapel service at Mount Olive College.

Quoting a United Nations official, the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, chaplain of the school, told the College audience that "the food shortage, not nuclear warfare, is the most critical issue before us . . . it is a time bomb ticking away and the zero hour is ahead."

An estimated 200 million people, just under the population of the United States, will die of starvation in the next ten years, according to figures released by World Vision International, an organization working to relieve world hunger. "About $180 a year is the per capita income in the developing nations," Harrison pointed out. "That is hardly a car payment to us."

Harrison explained how the problem of extreme poverty is behind the spread of communism in many third world countries. "Many of these people will gladly embrace a Marxist government," he said, quoting a Chinese proverb that "hungry bellies have no ears." "So when a communist worker comes along and says 'all you have to lose is your chains,' people who are starving will listen."

An offering was taken at the end of the service. Proceeds went to World Vision International and the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board for the purpose of relieving world hunger.

Harrison stressed that "Jesus stands in our midst and waits for our response to this problem. Our response to a hungry world is our response to Him."

World Vision is a worldwide non-profit organization founded in 1950 and dedicated to the physical and spiritual development of people. Its projects include child care; emergency relief in the form of food, medical supplies, and housing aids; and community development to help families become self-sufficient through training in vocations, hygiene, and family planning.

Spiritual development is accomplished through the funding of evangelistic missions, church assistance, and the training of Christian workers.

For more information or a copy of the most recent audit, interested persons should write to World Vision International at Box O, Pasadena, California 91109.

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM AT KENLY AND NEW SANDY HILL CHURCHES

The New Creations, a Christian witnessing team from Mount Olive College, is scheduled to appear on Sunday, April 12, at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church at 11 a.m. and at New Sandy Hill Free Will Baptist Church at 7 p.m.

Under the direction of Miss Caroline Castelloe, director of Counseling Services, the New Creations musical group is composed of ten students from the College.

The Rev. James V. Joyner, pastor of Kenly church, and the Rev. David Hines, pastor of New Sandy Hill church (located two miles south of Bailey), invite the public to attend the services and hear the message that these Mount Olive College students have to share.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Mount Olive College is coordinating several educational opportunities for Free Will Baptists during the spring and summer months. General information is included below; for more information contact Mr. Frank Harrison at Mount Olive College, telephone 658-2502.

Basic Choral Conducting Workshop

A workshop in basic choral conducting will be held April 27, 28, and May 4, 5, at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, from 7:30—9 p.m. This workshop is designed for choir directors, assistant directors, and choir members. The workshop will focus on the basic principles of song leading and conducting by volunteer choir leaders. There will be no charge for the workshop. It will be conducted by Mrs. Carolyn Knox of the Mount Olive College Music Department.

Workshop for Sunday School Teachers

"Techniques and Methods of Teaching" will be the topic of the workshop for Sunday school teachers sponsored by the Greenville area churches. It will be conducted by Mrs. Dianne Riley, associate director of admissions at Mount Olive College, and will meet

rom 8—9:30 p.m., rotating to he following Free Will Baptist hurches: May 4—First Church, Greenville; May 1—Bethany church, Winterille; May 18—Rose Hill hurch, Winterville; and May 5—Winterville church, Winterille.

There will be no charge for he workshop and refreshments vill be served by each host hurch.

Ministers' Institute

The theme of the August 10, 1, Ministers' Institute will be "Family Ministry and Biblical Preaching." It will be held in Room 115 of the Henderson Building on the Mount Olive College campus. Each day will egin with refreshments at 9:30 .m., and the program is cheduled from 10 a.m. until 3 .m.

Monday's session will focus n various aspects of ministry o families from premarital uidance to senior citizens. Tuesday's program will focus n the nature and content of Biblical preaching.

The program has been prepared by a representative group of ministers. There will e no tuition charge for the Institute, and ministers' wives re also invited to attend.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS INCREASED

Mount Olive College will significantly increase academic scholarships and church-college grants for the 1981-82 year, announced College President Dr. W. Burkette Raper.

Presidential and Faculty Scholarships will increase fifty percent for both incoming and returning students. Presidential awards will increase from $1,000 to $1,500, payable over a two-year period, and are made to those students who graduated in the top ten percent of their high school class or have an "A" average.

Faculty awards will increase from $500 to $750, payable over a two-year period, and are made to students who rank in the top twenty percent of their graduating class and have a "B" average.

Presidential and Faculty Scholars participate in special seminars throughout the year which enhance their academic program.

CHURCH-COLLEGE GRANT INCREASE

In order to assist Free Will Baptist students who wish to attend Mount Olive College, a special grants program is available which may cover up to $700 of the tuition a student must pay each academic year. This grant has been increased from $500 and is based on matching funds from the student's church and the College.

The cost of attending Mount Olive College during the 1981-82 academic year will increase only fifteen percent, for a total of $3,850 for tuition, room, and board. Tuition alone will be $2,250. In comparison with other private colleges and universities, Mount Olive College has been able to maintain a more economical fee for students.

Mount Olive College plans to continue its policy of meeting the demonstrated financial needs of its students.

WACHOVIA CREATES EDUCATIONAL MATCHING GRANTS PLAN

Wachovia Bank and Trust Company has created the Educational Matching Grants Plan to aid and encourage its full-time employees to provide financial support to qualified educational institutions. Gifts to eligible institutions will be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

Wachovia joins many other North Carolina corporations in establishing a matching gift program. Among these are Burlington Industries, Carolina Power and Light Company, Texasgulf, Inc., and Winn-Dixie Stores. Approximately 581 firms have matching gift programs that include junior colleges; and Mount Olive College will be glad to furnish a complete list upon request.

During the 1979-80 fiscal year (July 1—June 30), Mount Olive College received $10,686 from twenty-six companies to match gifts from 102 employees. Free Will Baptists, alumni, and friends who work for these firms can literally double their support to Mount Olive by utilizing these matching gift opportunities.

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1981 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 14, at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their $10 registration fee in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegates the trouble of handling the money. Also, in the event something happens at the last minute to prohibit your representing in person, your auxiliary is registered as having been represented.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will have time to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 14. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the convention needs your support. Mail your fee to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Treasurer, 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For April 19

VICTORY OF THE RESURRECTION

Lesson Text: Matthew 27: 62—28:10
Memory Verse: Matthew 28:6

I. INTRODUCTION

It was the end of a perfect day when Jesus ended His years of public ministry with His death on the Cross. By a life perfect and sinless amid the greatest conceivable trials and sufferings He had demonstrated to man how God would have us live. By His death He had achieved man's redemption from sin. He came to earth that "through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them, who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (Hebrews 2:14, 15).

The glory of the Resurrection crowns the Cross where Jesus died. The death of Christ for our sins gives depth of meaning to His Resurrection, and the Resurrection gives the ultimate in power to His death.

In those precious hours of fellowship on the eve of His death, Jesus assured His disciples of blessed reunion beyond the sunset and promised to make ready a place for them. But the disciples did not have to await the hour of their own death to be sure His promises would be kept. It was sunrise tomorrow that awaited them as Jesus rose from the dead and came to them with indubitable proof. The evidence He offered was given on many occasions, in many places, to many people. Joy now surmounted sorrow.

Last week's lesson ended with the death of Jesus on the Cross. Following this, the temple veil was rent, earthquakes shook the area, and several tombs of saints were opened. Joseph of Arimathea had gone to Pilate to request Jesus' body for burial. Receiving permission to take the body, Joseph had laid it in his own new tomb. There it lay until the first day of the week.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Three important moves were made at the execution of Jesus Christ on the Cross. The first move was made by the enemies of Jesus; the second by the friends of Jesus; and the third by His enemies once more. The first two were made before the events in our Bible text for this lesson, and we now turn to the third move.

B. The enemies of Jesus had made the first move after the death of Christ. They appealed to Pilate to have the soldiers "finish off" the victims so that their bodies might be removed from the crosses before the sunset hour brought on the Sabbath. The request was granted. But strangely enough when the soldiers smashed the legs of the robbers to hasten death, they did not mutilate the legs of Jesus. The soldiers knew nothing of the Old Testament prophecy, but they had a part in fulfilling the prophecy that predicted that not a bone of the Messiah would be broken. And when one of them thrust a spear in His side they brought about the situation of which the prophet spoke when they said that they shall look on Him whom they pierced.

C. The second move had been made by the friends of Jesus. Unexpected friends came forward to rescue the body of Jesus from mutilation and dishonor. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus now undertook to give Jesus' body an honorable burial. Since Nicodemus had already been embroiled with the leaders of the Sanhedrin over their wicked plots against Jesus (John 7:50-53), perhaps it seemed better for Joseph to go alone to Pilate to gain permission to prepare the body of Jesus for burial. Nicodemus assisted Joseph in removing the body of Jesus from the Cross, in readying the body for burial, and in placing it in the tomb. This new tomb was near the hill where Jesus had been crucified. The Scriptures mention only women as accompanying Nicodemus and Joseph with the body of Jesus to the tomb. It has been suggested by some that the four soldiers who did the work of crucifying Jesus might have helped in removing the body of Jesus from the Cross.

D. The third move after the death of Jesus was made by the enemies. It is with this move that our text for today begins.
—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

Last Sunday we saw Christ nailed to the Cross, persecuted by the ones He loved most, and dying to save all from their sins who will repent of their sins and believe in Him. But the grave could not hold Him; He said He would rise again on the third day, and that prophecy came true on Easter Sunday. Thomas Kelly, in *Come, Ye Saints* sounds the triumphant note for such a Day as this:

Come, ye saints, look here and wonder,

(Continued on Page 15)

IN MEMORY OF JULIA PURIFOY PATE

On January 4, 1981, the embers of Bridgeton Free ill Baptist Church were sad- ened when God in His infinite ve and mercy called our dear ster in Christ, Julia Purifoy ate, to her Heavenly home.

She was the daughter of homas and Mary Purifoy, rn on September 1, 1896, in e Truitt area of Craven Coun- . Sister Pate lived a rich, full e in the service of our Lord, aving accepted Christ as her aviour when she was around ght years old. She affiliated ith the Bridgeton church not ng after it was organized in 17 or 1918. She joined the Ladies Aid" as it was called en—now our Woman's Aux- ary. She was a faithful and edicated member, having rved in almost every office. e was a Christian who was illing to do her part, and did it long as she was physically le, oftentimes going beyond r own strength when it was r the Lord. At the age of fif- en she began teaching Sun- ay school, and with the excep- n of perhaps a year or two, ntinued teaching even in ter years when she was able attend services. She was ved by the ladies in her class much that they named the ass the "Julia Pate Bible ass" in her honor.

Sister Pate was a good wife d mother, not only to her own mily, but to many others. Her rms reached out to help those need. The doors of her home ere always open to those that eeded her. In times of sickness d death, she was one you uld depend on, and she ssisted in her very efficient anner. She was always kind older people, oftentimes car- g for them in her home when e was younger.

Mrs. Pate was a foster other to several children and loved by all, a person that you could confide in, go to for advice, who would always guide you right. I believe Sister Pate had rather talk about the holy Scriptures than anything else. You always felt stronger, and things looked brighter after talking with her and being in her presence. She often used the expression, "Children, I'll tell you," when she was talking. Sister Pate loved her Lord and served Him never compromising for things that were not right. Her influence will continue in our lives. We believe that she will be richly rewarded for her labor here on earth, which was inspired of God. We read in 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

We know that Sister Pate has gone on to be forever with the Lord; she was prepared and ready to meet Him. We believe that in due time she will receive her reward.

Our church and Woman's Auxiliary bow in humble submission to the will of our blessed Lord, "Who doeth all things well."

We wish to remind her family that we share their loss, and we desire that a copy of this be sent to the family, and one for publication in **The Free Will Baptist.**

Mrs. Nelson T. Simpson Sr.

STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION PLANNED FOR APRIL 11

Many Sunday school teachers and leaders are expressing frustration today, for they feel they are not doing an effective job in their Sunday school work. The reasons for this problem are many; their scope reaches through nearly every age. In a time when the message of the Sunday school is so needed, it seems that the message is hard to convey.

For the past few years, the State Sunday School Convention has been focusing on some of the problems that are weakening the ministry of the church's teaching program. It has been providing training for teachers, training that teachers can take home and use in their classrooms.

This year's Convention will be held April 11, at the Children's Home in Middlesex. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., and the Convention will get underway at 9:20. All classes and business should be concluded by 12:30.

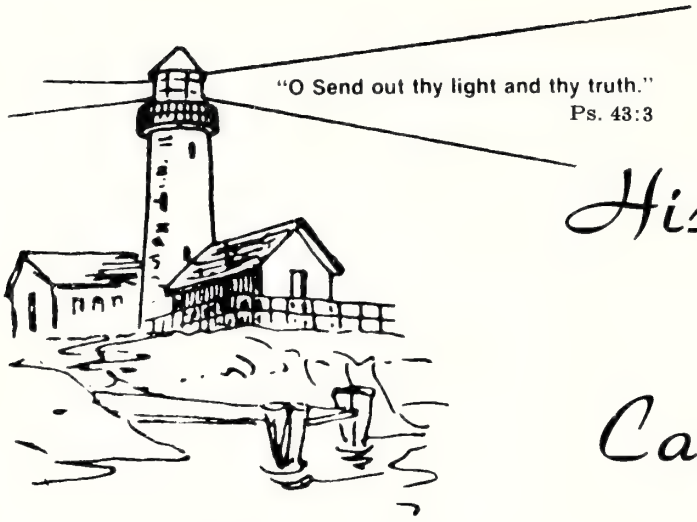
LOVE GOSPEL CHURCH MEMBERS VISIT ADVANCE MISSION

submitted by Jerry Campbell

The Rev. Gary Smith of Love Gospel Free Will Baptist Church of Greensboro, and several members of his congregation recently came and worshiped with us during a Wednesday evening prayer service. Those who came were Pastor Gary Smith and his wife, Judy; Charles Hartman, Evelyn Estes, Edith Russell, Inez Carter, and Mabel Leonard.

Following the service, a time of fellowship was enjoyed, along with a tour through our facilities.

We are indebted to these Christian brothers and sisters for their love and concern, as they have been of much comfort and help to us. From the very beginning, they have extended the hand of fellowship, not to mention the fact that they loaned us chairs. We pray the Lord will bless them as they and He have blessed us. We wish to express gratitude to them and the many others who have been supportive of our efforts here.



Proclaiming His Light and His Truth at Camp Vandemere

Come and enjoy a week of Bible study, music, crafts, sports, lots of fun and inspiration. Camp opens May 1, 1981, for groups and retreats. To attend camp weeks, contact the director for the week you prefer. Send applications early as space is limited. For weekend retreats, contact the Rev. Ralph Sumner, camp manager. His address is the Rev. Ralph Sumner, Box 298, Oriental, NC 28571.

FEES: $40.00 per person for regular encampments
$21.50 per person for weekend retreats (church or family)
$ 4.00 per night for camping vehicles or tents, with bathhouse privileges

Schedule

May 15-16

Prayer Retreat
The Rev. Ray Williamson, Director
Route 1, Box 3
Grantsboro, NC 28529
Phone 745-3993

May 29-31

High School Junior-Senior
Mrs. Dianne Riley, Director
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, NC 28365

June 5-6

Ministers' Retreat
The Rev. C. B. Hansley, Director
Route 1, Box 611-B
Newport, NC 28570
Phone 726-2195

June 15-19

First Week of Camp
Mrs. Owen Arthur, Director
Box 445
Bridgeton, NC 28519
Phone 638-5396

June 22-26

Woman's Conference
Mrs. Happy Taylor, Director
Route 1, Box 187
Deep Run, NC 28525
Phone 523-9644, 527-2843

June 29-July 3

Second Week of Camp
The Rev. Ray Williamson
Route 1, Box 3
Grantsboro, NC
Phone 745-3993

July 3-5

Youth Retreat
Mr. Wilmar Tripp, Director
Box 511
Beulaville, NC 28518
Phone 298-3838

July 6-10

Third Week of Camp
Mrs. Lexa Upton
Route 1, Box 790
Chocowinity, NC 27817
Phone 946-6490

August 17-21

Fourth Week of Camp
The Rev. and Mrs. Wayne King, Directo
1316 Manchester Street
Kinston, NC 28501
Phone 523-1055

August 29-31

Music Retreat
The Rev. Jerry English, Director
Route 5, Box 281-A
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone 638-5038

September 21-23

Bible Conference
The Rev. Floyd Cherry, Director
Box 337
Pine Level, NC 27568
Phone 965-6740

October 2-3

Spring Hope Church Retreat
The Rev. Grady Tucker, Director
705 River Road
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone 633-0986

"SKETCHES" OF RELIGION IN AMERICA

(Continued from Page 5)

Hutchins gave good advice. Evidently the onference must have divided over the issue of emperance. Two years later, November 1832, ie minutes of one of the Conferences shows iat two motions were made by Elder Jesse eath on the subject Hutchins had brought to ie attention of the Conference delegates and inisters. The first motion was, "that no rother should keep a grog or tippling shop, nder the penalty of excommunication." The econd, "that no member shall treat with ar-ent spirits, for any candidate for a post of rofit." These two motions were referred to the general comittee" and that, as the minutes iow, was the last heard of them.

This took place a few days after Hutchins rrived in North Carolina on his second tour. ie spring previous, Mr. Hutchins had married iss Lucy Ambrose. On their way to North arolina, in the autumn of 1832, they went to ew York to embark on their trip South. When ey arrived in North Carolina, the evangelist id his wife went to the churches where he had een before. The couple were warmly wel-omed. They were pressed to make North Carolina their future home. As inducement to remain, a house and slave were offered them together with promises for the future. The offer was declined.

Hutchins attended the Conference held at Luzen Swamp on November 8, 1832. Among the proceedings of this Conference session; it will interest some to read the following: "On motion, Elders Jesse Heath and E. Hutchins were appointed to publish a history of our connection in this and the adjoining States." "Agreed, that we recommend the brethren of our connection to patronize the *Morning Star,* published by the Freewill Baptists of the North." "Voted, that ten dollars, out of the general fund, be given to Elder E. Hutchins."

On November 13, Hutchins preached to throngs of people. In all the meetings, it is written in the minutes that 3,500 people were present.

Hutchins, in this his last tour of North Carolina, went over nearly all his former fields of labor. But on May 24, 1832, he and his wife sailed from New Bern to return to New England. He turned from a land congenial to his failing health, and a people, in many ways, so dear to his heart, to visit them no more.

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[1]Freewill Baptist Quarterly, Vol. 8, July 1862, p. 308.
[2]Ibid.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

See the place where Jesus lay;
He has burst His bands asunder;
He has borne our sins away;
Joyful tidings,
Yes, the Lord has risen today.

Today's lesson shows how refully Jesus' enemies tried conceal His body, guarding it curely, that the prophecy of is Resurrection might be dis-unted. It was all in vain; they iled to reckon with the power God. It shows the tender evotion of the women at the mb, a touching reminder to of what such devotion means Jesus now. We cannot go to is tomb, but we can give Him voted praise and service as e risen Lord that He is. If we this today and all the days reafter, Jesus' sacrifice, death, and triumphant Resurrection will have the meaning God intended it to have.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

An Easter Legend—A legend is told of Christ's return to Heaven after the Resurrection, where the saints gathered around to learn of His ministry. After they had heard of His great works, His teachings, His sufferings, death and Resurrection, one asked what plans He had laid down for completing the work He had begun. He answered that He was depending entirely on His followers. Then one of the saints asked, "But suppose they fail?" He replied, "I have no other plan, I am counting on them." Can Jesus depend on you to help spread the word that He is alive today?

Let Us Worship—The women held to the feet of Jesus and worshiped Him. The disciples when they saw Jesus in Galilee worshiped Him. Did they return to their homes and forget about Him? No, they went everywhere witnessing the "good news."

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

NOTICE

Mr. David Davis has been approved to preach the gospel as a licensed minister by the Eastern Conference. He is a member of Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church of Cove City, North Carolina, and was placed under the watch and care of his pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown.

Mr. Davis is available for limited supply work or revivals. Anyone who would like to contact him may call 633-5437. Please remember this young man as he answers the call of our Lord.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



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Editorial

The Resurrection of Hope

Two figures trudged along the Emmaus Road. These disciples were in shock—the One who they thought was their Redeemer had been killed. Misery enveloped their very beings. Little did they expect to meet the Great Physician as they traveled. (See Luke 24:13-35.)

But most of us have times when we feel as they must have felt. We all face spiritual perplexities, times when our hopes are wrecked. Such times can be quite painful for us if we are not prepared for them (but then, I wonder if we can ever be totally prepared for such). Not only can we become embittered, but we can be emotionally maimed (and at times, individuals are destroyed). People often feel as though God is "playing cat and mouse" with them. Having been lifted up, having once had hope, they feel as though all their props have been removed or knocked out from under them. And, as a result, down they go.

This is often the case with those who feel God has "called" them to perform some task. Confident of their "calling," they expect to receive blessings and bear fruit. But what happens? Sometimes all that comes their way is disappointment and frustration; things go wrong; people act (and react) perversely; opposition mounts; they feel as though their peers and colleagues have let them down. The field of ministry that once looked so promising becomes a disaster area.

Often couples marry and determine they will serve the Lord together. They dedicate all they have to Him—their home, their possessions; and in due time, their children. As the years progress, they find nothing but trouble. Health problems persist, money tightens, in-laws become "outlaws." They may even have trouble with their children—that boy and girl they so faithfully "trained" to serve God.

Someone is sure to ask, "Do these things happen to Christians?" Sure, you know perfectly well they do. Whenever Christians encounter conflicts, they wonder what great evil they have done; those who follow God often come to see Him as being cruel, even vile. They question why God is playing games with them. Why were they given hope? Only to have it taken away? The fact that "God-given hope seems to be wrecked by God-ordained circumstances is a reality for Christians today"—and it will be tomorrow as well. Such was certainly true for the two disciples Jesus encountered.

When Jesus met those followers on the road to Emmaus, He ministered to their needs. Jesus, the Great Physician, showed skill in diagnosing their problem. He did not palliate existing symptoms; He got to the root of the problem. What problem? Well, it was two-fold. The two disciples were too upset to think clearly; they suffered from unbelief. As a result, they experienced the full gamut of negative emotions—disappointment, distress, despair, depression. (Depression is the most common of all 20th Century "diseases." Depressed individuals are masters at finding reasons for not being comforted, encouraged, and hopeful. They know you mean well,

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by Ed Carlin

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April 15, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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THE SUFFERING SON

by Floyd B. Cherry

And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again (Mark 8:31).

ONLY a few hours before Jesus made the statement recorded in text, He had displayed His power in working miracles for the good of mankind. He had just multiplied the loaves and fishes and fed about four thousand people. He had opened the eyes of the blind man so he could see the beauty of creation. Multitudes were following Him. It seemed that the powers of opposition were giving way. Everything seemed to suggest that He would win the world, which He came to save. The joy of all His service did not drive from His mind the purpose of His great mission. He declared to His disciples, without reserve, that the Son of Man must suffer.

Why must He suffer when all things were advancing so well? The Son of God saw that His followers didn't worship Him from the heart; it was carnal admiration. They were doing it for the "loaves and fishes." He knew their changing hearts; one moment they were singing His praises and the next scoffing His priesthood. The Lord knew that man's heart would ever be so, until its sin had been slain by something greater, yea, by nothing less than His death and Resurrection. Therefore, the "Son of Man must suffer." God could not save any other way—"Without shedding of blood there is no remission."

Will you look with me at the threefold necessity for His suffering?

THE MUST OF DIVINE PURPOSE

He must provide a redemption for mankind. Salvation is not a product of the mind. It is not a discovery of the nineteenth or twentieth century; it is older than the hills. It goes back to the heart of the Almighty. Calvary was planned and purposed by the Almighty before the foundation of the world. His suffering was severe. The text says, "He must suffer." No sorrow was like unto His sorrow—"Man of Sorrows, what a name." At times His flesh seemed to cry out against His suffering. His purpose kept His face to the Cross of suffering. All evil powers were against that purpose. Even one of His friends said, "Be it far from Thee."

THE MUST OF DIVINE PROPHECY

His suffering was decreed (see Ephesians 1:4). It was decreed before the world began. His suffering was declared; sages and seers declared it. Psalmists and prophets declared it. God had spoken through all the ages of the coming One who would suffer and die for the sins of the world. In Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22, His suffering was described. Isaiah tells us that He was "wounded" and He was "bruised." Prophecy is full of Christ's coming to suffer.

(Continued on Page 15)

"MOST MISERABLE"

by Graham Faucette

A Sunday school teacher was trying to help some of her pupils who were afraid, especially of the dark. "You don't have to be afraid of the darkness. There is always someone with you, and that someone is Jesus. Wherever you go Jesus is always there. Jesus is everywhere."

But one small boy had an objection, "I know one place that you can never find Jesus, because He is never there."

"Oh, so you know a place where Jesus cannot be found," the teacher responded. "And just where is this place?"

"He cannot be found in His grave, because He is not there anymore," the boy replied.

There is no "half-way" faith concerning the Resurrection of the Lord. The Resurrection is not an optional part of the believer's doctrinal equipment. Paul spoke against the skeptical minds at Corinth who claimed there was no Resurrection. "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is in vain; ye are yet in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). Paul makes it very clear that if Christ had not been raised, that our faith is worthless, that there would be no hope to put our faith in. Then Paul said that all would still be in sin. "Then they also which are fallen asleep in Jesus are perished" (1 Corinthians 15:18). Then in Verse 19, Paul says, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."

Multitudes of people today express a general faith in life eternal. That is much different than being convicted about the Resurrection. When we are convinced that eternal life is connected with the Resurrection of Christ, we are also convinced that we must accept Him as Saviour.

Who had rather believe in death than in life? I don't believe that anyone would. The Easter season speaks to us of life and also it speaks of death. The bunnies, the eggs, and the flowers of spring, all speak to us of life. When winter comes and the leaves fall, the flowers wither and pass away. Winter speaks of death.

Some remember the Resurrection once a year—on Easter. They do so by coming and showing off their new spring outfits. (After all, the little ones look so cute in their new clothes.) Pagans have affirmed life this way for centuries. The Christians need to believe that Jesus came forth from the grave alive and that He will be alive forever more. If we leave this out and settle for the sentimental, we are like pagans, not Christians.

Paul leaves no place between. If Jesus is not raised, your faith is in vain. And if the only hope we have in Christ is in this life, then Paul says that we are of all men "most miserable."



The Rev. Francis Garner

Sound View Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. Francis Garner, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. Our acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

OUR PASTOR

submitted by the Sound View Ladies Auxiliary
written by Mrs. Geneva Ward



The Rev. and Mrs. Francis Garner

Our pastor, the Rev. Francis Garner, is a dedicated Christian who loves God and His work. He does his best as a servant of God to help his fellowman and to serve his country.

Mr. Garner was born and raised near Newport, North Carolina, a community in Carteret County. He attended Newport schools and grew up in Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church. Mr. Garner was never a selfish child. Once while growing up, he was in a school play entitled, "Tom Thumb Wedding." He was in the second grade at the time of that production, a production in which he played the part of a minister. Mr. Garner played his part well in the play, but today he is not acting—he is a great minister.

Mr. Garner has been a minister for 18 years; he served as a deacon at Holly Springs church before he was ordained. He went to Mount Olive College and served as pastor for two churches at the time. He often thought he was not going to make it through school with his family and responsibilities, but he put his whole trust in Jesus Christ; and he did.

He has served several churches. They are as follows: Long Ridge, Snow Hill, Cabin, and Free Union, his last pastorate before coming to Sound View church.

He was married on January 1, 1954, to the former Lorraine Higgins, also of Newport. Mr. Garner is the son of Mrs. Agnes Garner and the late Mr. Roy Garner of Newport. Mrs. Lorraine Garner is the daughter of Mrs. Annie Higgins of Newport and the late Mr. Leo Higgins. Both Mr. and Mrs. Garner were raised in good Christian homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Garner have four children. They have three daughters, Mrs. Jan Haskett and Mrs. Pam Benson, both of Newport, North Carolina; and Mrs. Karen Clayton of Belhaven, North Carolina. Their son, Stevie Garner, lives with them. They have three grandchildren.

Mrs. Garner is a wonderful helpmate. She has stayed by her husband through thick and thin. She has been a choir director, an adult ladies Sunday school class teacher, a youth director, secretary of the Albemarle Conference of the Ladies Auxiliary. Now she is a good worker in Sound View church. She is the president of the Auxiliary, sings in the choir, and works at First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Newport. Most of all she is a great mother.

Mr. Garner served as moderator of the Albemarle Conference. Now he is in the Eastern Conference and is on the Home Missions Board.

On March 28, Mr. Garner celebrated his 49th birthday. We would like to say that we love having you and your wife with us at Sound View church. May God bless both of you and we love you. We know you and Mrs. Garner are great Christians and we can tell it by the way you put:

J—Jesus first.
O—Others second.
Y—Yourselves last.

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet at 10 a.m., on April 21, at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina. Any person having business with the council should be present at this meeting.

Royce Reynolds, *Secretary*

Coming Events

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 19—Easter Sunday

April 20—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and all Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

April 25—State Youth Convention, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina, 9:30 a.m.



SUNDAY, APRIL 19

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 5:23

A $250,000 REWARD

James Kidd of Arizona willed his estate worth $250,000 to anyone who could prove scientifically that the soul survives the body after death.

God's trustful children do not need any scientific proof of the soul's survival after death. Scriptural affirmation is enough.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: but the spirit shall return to God who gave it (Ecclesiastes 12:7).

MONDAY, APRIL 20

Scripture Reading—Philippians 4:19

UNAPPROPRIATED RICHES

On a wintry day at twilight, a ragged man entered a little music shop on a side street in London. Under his arm was an old violin.

"I'm starving," said he to Mr. Betts, the owner of the shop. "Do please buy this old violin so I can get something to eat."

Mr. Betts offered him a guinea, worth about five dollars at that time. The man gratefully received it and then shuffled out into the frigid night.

When Mr. Betts drew a bow across the strings of the old violin, it produced a rich, mellow tone! How astonished he was! Lighting a candle, he peered intently into the inside of the instrument. There he observed the magic name—Antonio Stradivari—and the date, 1704! He knew instantly that this was the famous Stradivarius that had been missing for a hundred years. The attics of Europe had been diligently searched for this missing violin, but in vain.

Subsequently the famous violin changed hands several times and brought as much as $100,000.

For years, the penniless man didn't know the value of what he possessed. He lived in poverty, on the edge of starvation.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How like that penniless pauper are many of God's children. They are "heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:17), *and are "blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ"* (Ephesians 1:3). *But they are spiritually impoverished through their failure to appropriate the eternal riches which God has provided for them: "Come . . . take the water of life freely"* (Revelation 22:17).

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

Scripture Reading—Mark 10:17-22

GAINING THE MOON—LOSING THE EARTH

Apollo 11 aroused awe. Apollo 12 evoked curiosity. Apollo 13 ran into trouble, had to forego a lunar landing, and caused great anxiety. Apollo 14, once it was well on its way, stimulated considerably less interest.

One commentator affirmed that space travel has cost the United States roughly $325 a mile, or a total of $25 billion. Thanks to the Apollo 14 crew—a Bible now reposes on the moon's surface.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The question is pertinent: What is our nation profited if it gains the moon and loses the earth through its failure to meet human need, so alarmingly existent in our near-bankrupt cities and throughout the land?

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Scripture Reading—Acts 3:19-21

PERISHING WITH SPIRITUAL DROUGHT

Dr. Lyman Beecher earnestly pleaded, "O Lord, we must have revival! It must rain faster, or we will perish with spiritual drought!"

O, that more of God's children were pleading today, "O Lord, revive thy work . . . in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy" (Habakkuk 3:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Revive! Revive!

And give refreshing showers;

The glory shall be all Thine own;

The blessing shall be ours.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 6:10-17

BRAVO!

The adult Bible class of Union Church in Guatemala City met to decide whether to study the Bible during class sessions or to discuss politics, world conditions, and social reform.

Ambassador Mein, a Christlike, humble Christian, was the first to speak. He said, "I come to Sunday school to study the Bible."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

No one else spoke. What the nbassador said, backed by s exemplary Christian life, ttled peaceably a question nich could have occasioned visive discussion.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can say of that greatly ved and respected sassinated ambassador, ". . . being dead yet speaketh" Hebrews 11:4).

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 29-31

"TAKE MYSELF—
GIVE ME THYSELF"

Pleaded Nicholas of Flue, wiss holy hermit, "O Lord, ke from me what keeps me om Thee; give me what rings me to Thee; and take yself and give me Thyself!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *I seek not yours, but you* . . (2 Corinthians 12:14).

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Scripture Reading—Luke 11:2-4

FORTIFIED

Said William James, psy- nologist and philosopher, Whoever says, 'God's will be one,' is fortified against every eakness. The whole historic rray of martyrs and mis- ionaries proves the tranquil- nindedness, under naturally gitating or distressing cir- umstances, which self- urrender brings."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *O my Father, if it be ossible, let this cup pass from e: nevertheless not as I will, ut as thou wilt* (Matthew :39).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to- e Minute Illustrations,** Walter Knight.

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ve you renewed your subscription to **e Free Will Baptist?**

THE WAY I SEE IT!

Someone Has To Sell

by C. H. Overman

Just imagine it! There's this company that has many products to sell. The products are good; so a method is devised to move the products—to get the public to buy and use. Select salespersons are chosen by company representatives. Top notch, high quality persons are found. When and if these chosen ones succeed they are expected and urged to find other salespersons, etc. These newcomers are invited to meet with the "pro," or those who have become successful. Enthusiasm and zeal are most evident—everyone is urged to get out and sell! In turn, those who do the urging, the promoting, will receive great benefits (percentages, if you please) from those who sell. And all the while everyone attends the promotional meetings. You may even be invited without being told the purpose.

Now, I'm beginning to wonder, "Who's doing the selling?" After all, someone has to. As I see it, the manufacturing, promotion, and selling of products is basic to our economical well-being. Indeed, it is the backbone of it.

At this point I must make a comparison. As Christians we have the challenge of presenting Christ to the world. In a sense, we are salespersons. We are presenting and promoting a person, God's Son. We are not selling Him in monetary terms. It is a matter of what He taught, of who He is. There is no charge for the spiritual benefits of receiving Him. Salvation through Him is free. In presenting Him, however, we must believe that He is the best; that there is nothing to surpass His beauty, His love, and His eternal effects.

When we attend His house, we are not just attending to meet some wonderful people, or to hear a sales pitch. We attend out of the necessity to be filled, to quench our spiritual thirst. When we leave the meeting, our obligations do not end. We are to practice before others what we have experienced in our hearts and lives.

There are no special sales, no discounts. All receive Him in the same way. But someone has to go out in the "highways and byways." Someone has to sell. A gathering of great and good people on Sunday morning will not accomplish the task. There's much more involved than just a meeting, however good that might be. The way I see it, we need more committed salespersons—those who are truly sincere and filled with a burning zeal to present Him to the unsaved.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. W. H. Willis announces that he will be available to supply for any minister who cannot fill his pulpit due to sickness or vacation, etc., and to help any church that he can as of July 1, 1981. He may be reached by calling 523-4098, or writing to him at 1121 Dunn Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

NEWS & NOTES

Tarboro Junior Church Sponsors Kite Flying Contest



Contest is a success.

The First Free Will Baptist Junior Church of Tarboro sponsored a Kite Flying Contest on March 29, on the front lawn of Moderncare Nursing Home, Tarboro. About 85 came out to attend this event including the junior churchers, parents, friends, and residents of Moderncare. Before the day was over, about 30 kites were flying high in the sky. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day, and several parents commented that they liked this kind of church family get-together.

Friendship Church to Have Revival Services

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, North Carolina, will hold revival services April 19 through April 24, at 8 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, will bring the message on Sunday morning, with the Rev. Marvin Waters of Shiloh church of Pinetown as the evangelist for the remainder of the week.

Prayer rooms will be open each evening before the services. Special music will be presented during the week.

The membership invites everyone to join them in worship and fellowship during this week.

Revival Services at Edgewood Church

Revival services are in progress through April 17, at Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp, North Carolina. Services begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. W. S. Burns of Elm Grove church is the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Robert Strickland, and the congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to attend the remainder of these services. Special music is presented each evening.

First Church, Plymouth Announces Upcoming Services

Revival services will be held April 27 through May 1, at First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Earl Glenn. There will be special singing each night.

Homecoming will be May 3 at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by an afternoon song service at 1:30 p.m.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. Floyd Burkey, invites everyone to attend these services.

Revival in Progress At Pilgrim's Home Church

Revival services are in progress through April 17 at Pilgrim's Home Free Will Baptist Church in Jones County. The evangelist is the Rev. David Cauley. Services begin nightly at 7:30. Special music is being provided. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival Services to Be At St. Mary's Church, Kenly



The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

Spring revival services wil be held at St. Mary's Free Wil Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina, April 20 through Apri 24. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will be the speaker each night Everyone is invited to come and pray for a genuine spiritual, Heaven-sent revival A nursery is provided each night.

Sunday School Teachers Receive Certification

The Rev. Floyd Burkey, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, North Carolina, and seven other members of the church have recently met the requirements for Sunday School Teachers Certification. They include the following: Harry Allen Sr., chairman of the deacon board; Edgar Pierce, deacon; Nelda Sadler, choir director and musician; Ruth Taylor, treasurer; Irene Pierce, secretary; Edna Smith; and Daisy Phelps.

Three other members will soon complete the course.

Revival Services Scheduled For Johnston Union

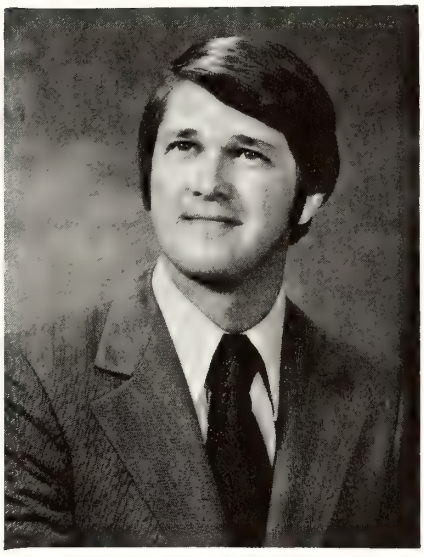


The Rev. Jeff Scarborough

The Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church will be having a week of revival services, April 27 through May 1, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist for the week will be the Rev. Jeff Scarborough, pastor of Shady Grove church near Spivey's Corner. There will be special music each night of the revival, and everyone is invited to attend these services.

The Johnston Union church is located between Smithfield and Clayton on Highway 70. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Mike Scott.

Free Spirit Church Announces Revival Services



The Rev. Wayne King

Free Spirit Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, cordially invites everyone to attend its revival services, April 27 through May 1. The Rev. Wayne King of Kinston, North Carolina, will be the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Prayer room opens at 7:15 p.m. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Dale Albertson.

Revival Services to Be Held at Pleasant Plain Church

The Rev. C. F. Bowen will be the guest evangelist during revival services at Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Selma, North Carolina, April 20 through April 24. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Ernie Price, extends a warm welcome to everyone to attend.

Revival Services at Pearsall Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Pearsall Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kenansville, North Carolina, April 20 through April 24, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Mickey Whitfield will be the guest speaker. Special music will be featured each night. A cordial welcome is extended to the public to attend. The Rev. Bobby Harrell is pastor of Pearsall Chapel church.

Revival in Progress At Saint Paul Church



The Rev. Mike Scott

Revival services are in progress through April 17, at Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Newton Grove, North Carolina. The guest evangelist is the Rev. Mike Scott, pastor of Johnston Union church, Route 1, Clayton, North Carolina. Services begin each evening at 8. The pastor, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin, and the membership of Saint Paul church invite everyone to pray for and attend the remainder of these services.

Wintergreen Church Announces Revival Services

Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, North Carolina, will hold its spring revival April 20 through April 24. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. David W. Hansley. Services will begin nightly at 7:30, with special singing by local groups. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown, and members invite everyone to attend these services and pray for the revival.

Sneads Ferry Church Announces Revival Services

Sneads Ferry Free Will Baptist Church, Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, will have

Turn the Page

spring revival services April 20 through April 24. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Ransom McAbee, pastor of Sandy Plain church.

The pastor, the Rev. O. B. Taylor, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

Alice Webster Day at Free Union Church



Miss Alice Webster

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina, is blest to have a member such as Miss Alice Webster. She is 76 years old, has been a Christian for 42 years, has been a Sunday school teacher for 22 years, helped organize the league in 1935, and has held many offices in the Woman's Auxiliary both on the local and district levels. She also supports the Albemarle Sunday School Convention and Albemarle League Convention.

It was on her behalf that Free Union church celebrated Alice Webster Day on March 22. On Sunday morning, she was presented a silk flower corsage, and The New Day Spirituals sang a song in her honor. On Sunday night, the youth choir sang in her honor, after which there was a fellowship supper. The Junior Sunday School Class gave her **The Free Will Baptist** for a year. Mike Quidley mounted a pair of deer horns on red velvet, and his daughter, Tonji, presented them to her. She also received $50.

Her sister, Nell, and brother, Tom, were there to help her celebrate. There was a special cake with "Miss Alice" on it made by her sister-in-law, Mrs. Lara Webster. Miss Webster was asked what was the recipe of a long life. Her answer was hard work and clean living.

Revival Services to Be Held At Bridgeton Church

Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina, will hold spring revival services April 27 through May 1, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Cedric Pierce will be the evangelist. Special music will be presented each evening. The pastor of the church, the Rev. Owen Arthur, invites everyone to attend these services.

Easter Revival Services Announced for Kinston Church

First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, announces Easter revival services for the weekend of April 17 through April 19. Services will begin on Good Friday at 7:45 p.m., and will continue through the Sunday evening service. There will be special communion services at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning. Special music will be presented by the choir and choir members in these services. The pastor of the church, the Rev. C. H. Overman, will be bringing the messages. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to attend.

Hickory Grove Church Plans Spring Revival

Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church will hold its spring revival, April 20 through April 24. The church is located on Highway 30, four miles east of Bethel, North Carolina. The guest evangelist for the week will be the Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Tarboro, North Carolina.

Services will begin each evening at 7:45, with special music scheduled. There will also be a praise service nightly conducted by the Sunday school.

The pastor, Leon Harris, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Sidney Church Has Youth Sunday

On March 29, the YFA of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Belhaven, had charge of the Sunday school and worship services. They taught all the classes and carried out all aspects of Sunday school. At the worship service, they each had some part: call to worship, announcements, and also had youth thoughts. Their special guests were the Believers from Arapahoe. They presented the message in song and did a great job. After the service, hot dogs were served in the fellowship building. This was a day enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Revival Services at First Church, Goldsboro

Revival services will be held at First Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, April 20 through April 24, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. J. C. Yates, pastor of Saratoga church, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Norman Ard is pastor of First church, Goldsboro. There will be special music each night. A nursery will be provided for the small children. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Albemarle District Youth Have Great Day

The Albemarle District Youth met Saturday, April 4, at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North

(Continued on Page 15)

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For April 26

IN MISSION WITH THE VICTOR

Lesson Text: Matthew 28:11-20
Memory Verse: Matthew 28:20

I. INTRODUCTION

It is an oft-repeated story, but it illustrates the point of this lesson. When Christ returned to Heaven, the gates were thrown open and the heavenly choirs sang a joyous welcome. Many began to question Him about His mission on earth. In response He told about His birth, His ministry, His death on the Cross, and His Resurrection in order to provide salvation for the human race. He concluded by telling about the Great Commission, how He had sent His disciples out to win the world.

"You mean," asked one heavenly citizen, "that You entrusted everything to weak, sinful men?"

"Yes," He said, "to weak, sinful men."

"But suppose they fail?" came the further inquiry. "What other plan do You have?"

"I have no other plan," He responded. And then after a pause, He added, "But I will be with them always." **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. For the last two Sundays we have studied the two great foundations of the Christian faith: the death of Christ on the Cross, and His Resurrection from the dead. First Corinthians 15:3, 4 confirms this: "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." These were the bases of Paul's message, and of every gospel preacher from then until now.

B. Both of these are essential to salvation. However, the unique fact of Christianity is the Resurrection of Christ. All other religions record the death of their leader. Only Christianity records the Resurrection of its Founder. All other religious leaders are dead. Only Jesus Christ is alive! This is important to know.

C. Our lesson for today takes up where that of last Sunday ended. Last Sunday we saw that Jesus was resurrected and had revealed Himself to the women and His apostles. The lesson today begins with what the Jews did to try to deny the fact of His Resurrection. It is interesting to note that unbelievers are still trying to find ways to disprove the fact of His Resurrection.

D. Then the lesson moves on to an appointment that Jesus had with His disciples on a mountain. It was on this mountain that He instructed them as to what they and subsequent generations of Christians were to do. He gave them what is called "The Great Commission." So far as we know, the Great Commission is the only thing that Jesus said which is recorded five times over in the Bible. It is recorded in each of the four Gospels and in the Book of Acts. This should impress us with its importance to the ongoing work of Jesus Christ on this earth.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Everything Jesus said and did was designed to inspire His disciples to take the gospel into all the world—the world of their day. And it was left to us to do the rest. This last lesson from the Gospel of Matthew should help us realize our responsibility in the area of missions.

B. We are Christians today because somebody brought the gospel to us yesterday. Maltbie D. Babcock said, "We are the children of the converts of foreign missionaries; and fairness means that we must do to others as men once did to us."

C. Our missionary giving is more like a thermostat than a thermometer. A thermometer merely reflects the temperature in a room, whereas a thermostat determines it. As we study this lesson today let us say with this missionary we heard from: "I have but one candle of life to burn, and would rather burn it out where people are dying in darkness than in a land which is flooded with lights."

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

D. The purpose of Jesus' appointment with His disciples was to teach them how they were to carry on the work He started. He gave the Great Commission.

E. Show the importance of this incident concerning the soldiers which is recorded only in Matthew. It helps to prove the fact of the Resurrection.

F. Talk about the appointment that Jesus had with His disciples, and then show that we have some appointments with Him today.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

April is Home Missions Month

News from

Home Missions

PRESENTING CHECK



Pictured is Grayson Spencer presenting Taylor Hill with $5,000 for Home Missions from the sale of the old West Hillsborough property. Hill reports that pastor and Mrs. Spencer have been a great asset to our State Home Missions and Church Extension Program.

APRIL IS HOME MISSIONS MONTH

According to a recent survey of statistics for the Free Will Baptist churches over the past several years, the **need** for Home Missions becomes more evident.

Today we have 10 Home Missions points from Edenton to Charlotte. All these mission points are doing well and making progress in the winning of lost souls and the establishing of new churches. In the years that Home Missions has been in existence, we have seen over 400 persons come to know the Lord and become active in the Original Free Will Baptist denomination. Our missions contributed over $3,500 to denominational enterprises in the year 1979.

While this is good, there are still many people in North Carolina and in the United States who need to know the Lord. The Great Commission is still strong and true; we still need to go into all the world and preach the Word. We need to preach just as strongly to our neighbors as we do to those in other lands. We are to be witnesses at home first or else we can send no witnesses to the uttermost parts of the world.

I have said all that in order to urge us as Original Free Will Baptists to see the need to evangelize next door as well as across the country and overseas. We must realize that all of us as Christians are to be Home Missionaries by witnessing to those around us. Robert A. Raines, in his book *New Life in the Church,* put it this way:

> "There is no question that the witness of laymen is the most powerful weapon in the church's arsenal."

Your Home Missions Board and your Home Missionaries have a vision of winning the lost to Christ; it should be the vision of EVERY FREE WILL BAPTIST. The Home Missions Board stands ready to help in any way but our help to others will be only as effective as your help to us. Please remember Home Missions in your church budget. Involve your young people in a project to raise funds for Home Missions—walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, rock-a-thons, etc. Pray constantly for Home Missions and pray for the missionaries and for the board members. Our needs are great but I believe that Free Will Baptist people will help us meet our needs and thus help us meet the spiritual needs of others.

Ray Wells, *Chairman*
Home Missions Board

IF WE FAINT NOT

The success of Home Missions depends on Free Will Baptists and this is not the time to delay or to be hindered. The words of Paul speak loudly to this point.

> "LET US NOT BE WEARY IN WELL DOING: IN DUE SEASON WE SHALL REAP IF WE FAINT NOT" (Galatians 6:9).

Please help us make April the greatest Home Missions month both spiritually and financially since the beginning of the Home Missions Board. Send your contributions to the Rev. Taylor Hill, Director/Treasurer, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305.

Ray Wells, *Chairma*
Home Missions Boar

CATALPA MISSION ORGANIZES TWO PROGRAMS

On March 10, a meeting was eld at Catalpa Mission for the urpose of organizing a oman's Auxiliary. Dola udley, Happy Taylor, and rs. A. B. Bryan attended the eeting and helped with the ganization and selection of ofcers. The first meeting of the ficers and charter members as held on March 31.

On March 14, Catalpa Mison organized a Men's ellowship. The pastor, the ev. Alton Howard, helped ganize the fellowship. Ofcers were selected and comittees were formed. The first eeting of these officers and arter members was held on arch 31.

REMINDER: HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION MONTH

We realize that many of our churches already have a budget set up but there are still some who do not. We just want to remind our people that April is Home Missions Month and as always we need your prayers and support. Many of our pastors and members have really stood by us and we sincerely thank you. Those of you who have not, we hope that you will come and join in and take part in this part of the Great Commission; Christ will certainly bless you.

Taylor Hill

PRESS CLOSED EASTER MONDAY

The Free Will Baptist Press oundation bookstores in yden, Smithfield, New Bern, ilson, and Kinston, North rolina, along with the printg department in Ayden, will be closed Monday, April 20, in observance of the Easter holiday.

NOTICE

There will be no issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST printed April 29, because of our decision not to print more than 48 issues per year.

Those having announcements and news notes intended for the April 29 issue should submit these for the April 22 issue.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. LOVIE BRAXTON

In December, 1980, God called our dear sister in Christ, Mrs. Lovie Braxton, to her eternal reward.

Mrs. Braxton had been a member of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, North Carolina, for a number of years, and attended church as long as her health would permit.

Funeral services were held in Wilkerson Funeral Chapel in Greenville by her pastor, the Rev. Tommy Evans. The large attendance and the floral contributions showed how much she was loved and respected by those who knew her.

Mrs. Braxton is survived by three daughters, Mavis Tinsley, Bernadine James, and Jewel Mae Griffen; one brother, Bill Moye of Winterville, North Carolina; and one sister, Linda Sutton of Greenville, North Carolina; and a number of relatives and friends.

First, we want to express our deepest sympathy to the family.

Second, we want to express our appreciation for her love for her church and community.

Third, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy to **The Free Will Baptist** for publication, and a copy retained in the minutes of the church.

Ruby Joyner
Charlotte Crawford

AUXILIARY NEWS

ATTENTION CAPE FEAR LADIES

There will be a study course on Tuesday, April 28, 1981, at 7:30 p.m., at First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, North Carolina. The study, on Stewardship, will be given by Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Wall. This course is sponsored by the Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliaries. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ATTENTION EASTERN CONFERENCE LADIES

All roads will lead to Kinston; North Carolina, April 25, for the State Youth Convention at Lenoir Community College, with the Eastern Conference serving as host. The theme of the convention will be "God Plus One."

Since the ladies auxiliary sponsors the youth groups, we are asking each ladies' auxiliary to send $10 to help defray the expenses for the noon meal. Checks should be made out to the Eastern District Youth Convention and earmarked for food expenses of the State Youth Convention. You can send your contribution to Deborah King, 1316 Manchester Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. Along with your contribution, please enclose the name and address of your local youth chairman, for future correspondence.

Deborah King

ATTENTION WESTERN DISTRICT WOMEN

There will be a study course at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Nash County sponsored by the Western District Woman's Auxiliary on April 7, at 8 p.m. The course is entitled "Adventure in Prayer," and will be given by Nadine Crocker. All districts are invited to attend.

NEWS HAPPENINGS FROM THE EASTERN YOUTH FRONT

by Deborah King



Winners for the Eastern District: Janet Metts, YFA Essay winner; and Rusty Smith, YFA Declamation winner.

On March 14, at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Pink Hill, the Eastern District Youth Fellowship met for its spring convention. This was a very important meeting because the winners for the Essay, Declamation, and Bible Bowl Quiz contests were announced.

Our YFA representative from the Eastern District for the Essay contest is Janet Metts. She is a member of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, where she serves as secretary of her local YFA.

Rusty Smith was declared winner of the Eastern District YFA Declamation contest. Rusty is a member of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church and he serves as president of the local YFA.

Our AFC and YFA winners in the Bible Bowl Quiz are all from Westside Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston. The winners of the YFA group are Patrick Broadway, Lori McCoy, Wendy Corbett, and Tad Rhodes, alternate. The AFC winners are Anthony Kennedy, Kevin Kennedy, Angie McCoy, and Melissa Mattocks.

We are proud to have these young people representing us at the State Youth Convention, April 25, at Lenoir Community College. YFA and AFC groups of the Eastern District, let's have a good representation of the Eastern Conference at our State Youth Convention. See you there!



Eastern District YFA and AFC Bible Bowl Quiz winners: Back row (left to right) YFA winners—Patrick Broadway, Lori McCoy, Wendy Corbett, Tad Rhodes, and Mrs. Linda McCoy, local youth chairman; front row AFC winners—Anthony Kennedy, Kevin Kennedy, Angie McCoy; not pictured, Melissa Mattocks.

The Suffering Son

(Continued from Page 3)

THE MUST OF DIVINE PASSION

There is above all else, the "must" of His great heart of love and passion. The law of love was more binding than the purpose and the prophecy. When He said that He "must suffer," He unveiled His heart to them, showing the compulsion of love that made it a joy to Him to do so. "Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross." In creation God showed His hand; in redemption He shows His heart. It was love that led Him to say that the Son of Man must suffer. The "must" of this text is the expression of that great love, which suffered the wrath of God that we might be saved. His suffering shows us His love. Remember, He suffered to save us from eternal torment. A love that would suffer so "demands my soul, my life, my all."



The Rev. Floyd B. Cherry serves as President of Carolina Bible Institute. He also writes **The Bible Teacher** quarterly, printed by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

ews from the

Children's Home

CHILDREN VISIT IN THE CHURCHES



Becky, Tina, Karen, Bo and
is sing for the folks at Piney
rove in Beaufort County. The
ildren of State Cottage, Miss
anie Brickhouse, Guy and
arie Casteen, houseparents,
d Mr. Humphrey enjoyed the
y with the Piney Grove con-
egation. Lunch for the group
s served nearby.

The children's schedule is
ling fast. If you would like to
ve them visit your church,
ntact Miss Brickhouse at the
ildren's Home.

Have a Joyous Easter

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

Carolina. The Bible Bowl winners were from Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie. They were Sandra Newbern, Kevin Dilday, and Donnie Overton for the AFC.

The Declamation winner was Nikkie Overton from Hickory Chapel. The Essay winners were: AFC—Paula Hargrove from Sidney church at Belhaven; YFA—Tony Sawyer from Sound Side church, Columbia.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

but when you talk with them, they defy all your efforts. "It's all right for you," they say, "but you don't understand that things are different with me. I suffer worse, encounter more, bear heavier burdens . . . ." They seem determined to hear nothing but bad news; everything is seen negatively. Oh, Christians, aren't we guilty?) The disciples implied that there was nothing to the news of Jesus being alive; all was just wild talk, idle gossip. Even the empty tomb was viewed to be bad.

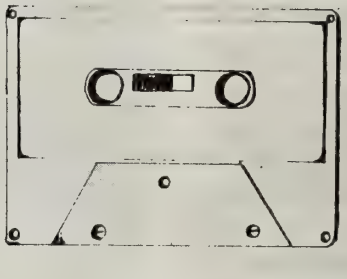
The disciples were also ignorant of the Scriptures. Had they been more familiar with God's Word, they might not have been so perplexed. They could have made some sense of what was happening to them. Whereas the two followers could not—did not—make sense of Jesus' cross, many of us today cannot make sense of the crosses we are called to bear as a result of our unbelief and ignorance.

Brothers and sisters, our "hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness." As Easter approaches, let us be mindful that our Lord is always the same; He is still the Great Physician. It is "only" as we lay aside prayerless resentment and self-pity, and open our hearts to Him that we will know His help."

Now Available

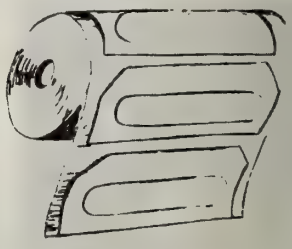
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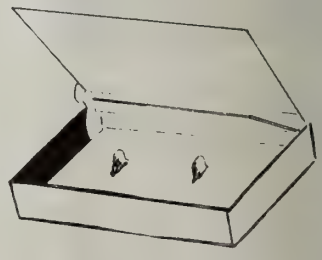


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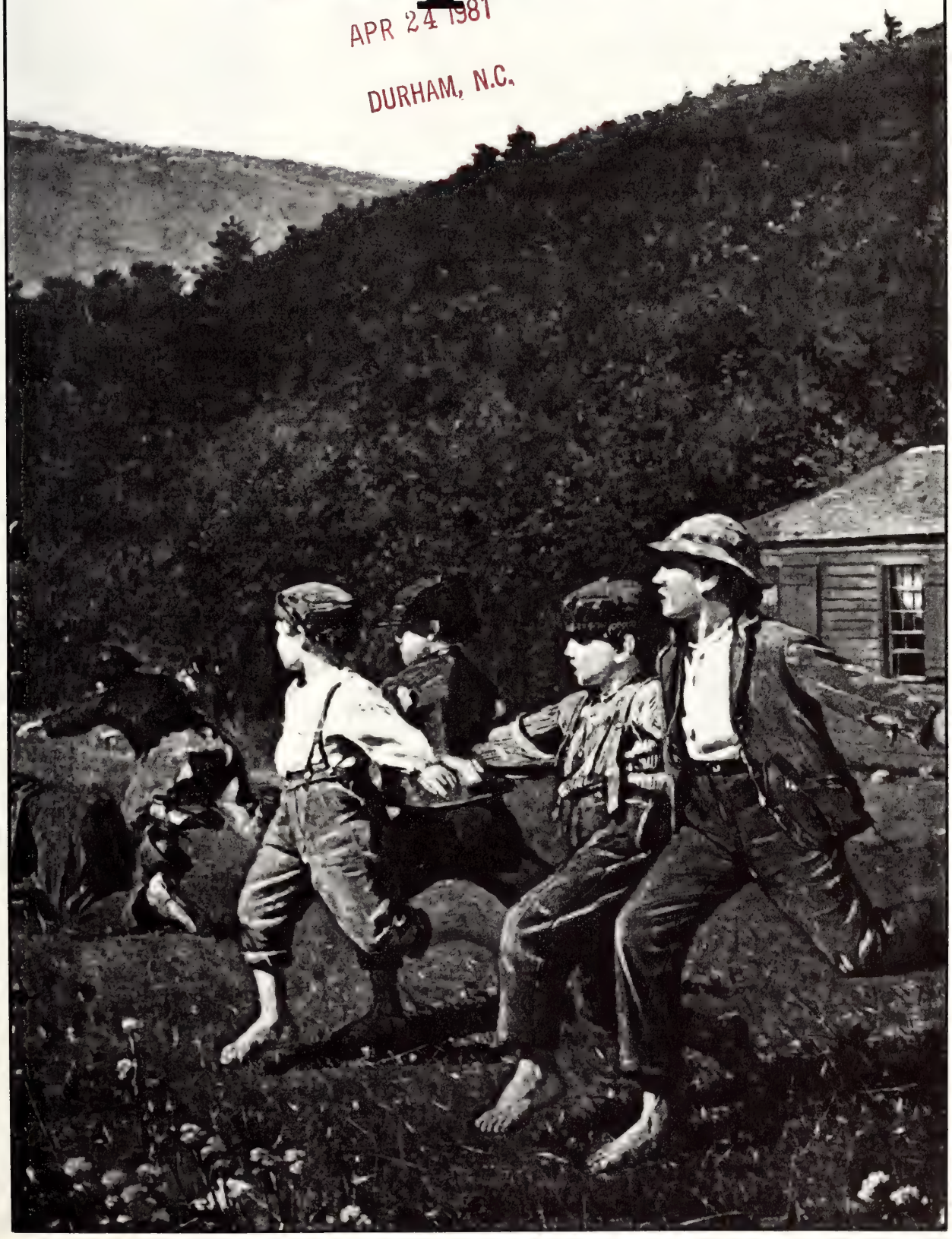
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

Are We Perishing?

Few things thrill me more than watching the students in my Sunday school class become excited about learning—learning about the Bible, our church, and God himself. It does me good to see them search the Scriptures; it makes me consider my real responsibility as their teacher; it challenges me to greater service. But isn't that what Sunday school is all about?

Sunday school is the "gathering arm" of the church. (See Deuteronomy 31:12.) Before we can totally understand our responsibility in reaching people—in gathering people—we need to have a vision of what God can do **and** what we should do. How many times we do not achieve because we do not perceive! In the early 70's, the Sunday school was called "the steeple of the church"; during the 80's, many feel the church's teaching ministry will be one of providing a foundation. Churches used to have more people in Sunday school than in church; but today the table seems to have turned, for more often than not, attendance is better in church than in Sunday school.

Years ago, Steve Paxton caught a vision of what could be accomplished in Sunday school. The fact he couldn't talk plainly or walk without limping did not stop him. For 25 years, he labored diligently in the Midwest. In fact, when "Stuttering Steve's" diary was found after his death, the names of 83,000 young children he had helped win to the cause of Christ were recorded. Imagine that—83,000 children! Most of us have never led **one** person to God.

Speaking at the 1981 North Carolina Sunday School Association meeting held at Charlotte in March, Dr. Elmer Towns posed an interesting question. (I would like you to consider the same question.) "If you were to move to a new town, one with which you were totally unfamiliar, how would you determine which church to go to? How would you decide where to attend?" While everyone was thinking about his query, Dr. Towns related how he would make up his mind. He said, "I'd walk through the educational facilities of churches in the city. I'd study Sunday school rooms." You might think his answer a bit strange, but it is not really. Rooms can tell people an awful lot; they can project attitudes and energy. Rooms can relate what things are seen as being important to those who use them; they can tell you where a church puts its emphasis. If Sunday schools minister to adults and not to children, you are probably visiting a "has been" church. If churches concentrate on reaching children and forget adults, things are really out of balance.

It is time we looked at our educational programs. We must ask if people are learning; are they being challenged? Do students possess an enthusiasm regarding the church and all it stands for?

If Dr. Towns is right (and facilities and their appearance make a major difference), many of us are in trouble. It is time we have a vision of what God would have us do. It is time that we see what we should be doing.

Where there is no vision, the people perish . . . (Proverbs 29:18).

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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April 22, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $6.76; two years, $12.48; four years, $24.96 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $6.50, $12, and $24 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

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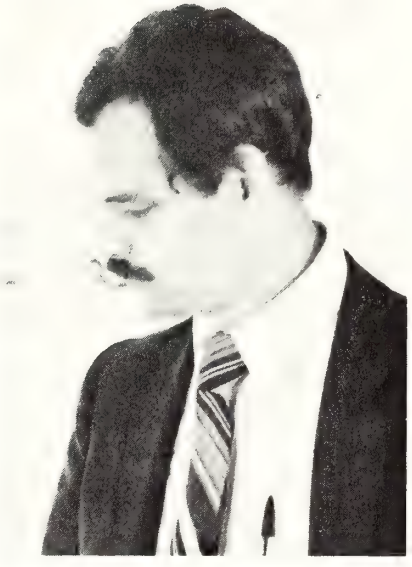
STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION HELD

THE Forty-first Annual Session of the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention of Original Free Will Baptists met at Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, located on the Free Will Baptist Children's Home campus in Middlesex, Saturday, April 11, 1981. Sixty-eight churches were represented, with a total of 183 people in attendance.

The Convention featured two workshops. The Rev. Frank Grubbs, pastor of Lanier's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, spoke on "The Significance of the Self-Concept in Christian Education." The Rev. Harry Grubbs talked concerning the certification program for teachers. He dealt with the personal qualifications of teachers, as well as the specifics of the Convention's certification program. The Rev. Harry Grubbs pastors First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville, North Carolina.

The Sunday School Convention sponsors the Annual Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet. This year's banquet is to be at Mount Olive College on Friday night, September 11, 1981. Mr. Linwood Smith, the sunday school superintendent at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, will be the guest speaker.

The officers of the Convention are as follows: President—Stanley Jenkins; Vice-President—the Rev. Marvin Waters; Recording Secretary—the Rev. Chris Singleton; Treasurer—Milton Wiggs; Director of Organization—Elwood Hill; Director of Denominational Enterprises—the Rev. C. H. Overman; Director of Publicity—the Rev. Joey Crumpler; Director of Literature—the Rev. Frank Grubbs; Director of Boards and Reports—the Rev. Adrian Grubbs; and Cragmont Representatives—the Rev. Harry Grubbs (1982), the Rev. Gary Bailey (1983), Mr. Wilber Shirley (1984).





FREE WILL BAPTIST MINISTERS INVITED

All ministers in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists are invited to attend the General Baptist Pastors' Conference to be held May 18-22, at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina. This Conference is sponsored by the General Association of General Baptists, and ministers from 15 states will be present.

A group of ministers from the State Convention will provide an old-fashioned pig-picking during the week.

More information about this Conference will be forthcoming in the May 6 issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST.

NEW DISCOVERIES

There is an old Italian proverb, "When God shuts a door, He opens a window." Many of God's saints have come to barriers in life which have eventually meant new and broader fields of service. If we are identified with Christ, distressing circumstances will bring us into new discoveries of the riches of His grace and the treasures of His boundless and eternal love.

GRIFFIN BROTHERHOOD MEETING PLANNED

The next meeting of the Griffin Brotherhood is planned for Friday, May 1, at 7 p.m. It will be held in the Olive Room located on the downtown campus of Mount Olive College.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper is the scheduled speaker. He will talk on the College's planned four-year curriculum, placing particular emphasis on ministerial training.

All Brotherhood members are encouraged to attend.

A LETTER TO THE ACTING EDITOR

Dear Janie:

Your editorial entitled, "Is the Romance Over?" in the Wednesday, April 1, 1981, issue of **The Free Will Baptist** is very appropriate and needed by all of us who call ourselves Original Free Will Baptists. I share your concern as I move among our people and churches.

How often have I heard the complaint of a "drought" in Zion! And yet, God has for all of us more than we need to awaken our people and to satisfy our deepest thirsts. Could it be we as a people are no longer thirsty for the vital spiritual reality of a resurrected, living Christ in our lives?

As I read the New Testament, especially the Book of Acts, I find a people who were alive, who were joyful, and whose lives radiated a quality of life that was contagious. Even in the face of poverty, persecution and death, radiant joy and love characterized them.

Who were these people and what had happened to them? They were "Christians" and they had been with Jesus. They had a personal experience with Him that revolutionized their lives from one end to the other! They had been with Jesus Christ! Their experience and relationship with Him was the most real and the most important thing in their lives. No wonder the enemies of the Early Church accused these people who were called Christians of "turning the world upside down"!

I want to share this quote with you from the book *Churches and How They Grow* by M. Wendell Belew, published by Broadman Press:

> Should Christians and the church ever seek to produce crisis? Of course they should. This is what we are all about. It was what Christ was about. He was sometimes remembered as the "disturber." We are about the business of upsetting values in the lives of people who do not know Christ. We are concerned about disturbing the status quo. We ought to all be about the business of stirring up issues. We have committed ourselves to stirring up some issues. We like to stir up the conviction in a man that he is lost. We are a bit more reluctant, however, to stir up the conviction that Christians be the kind of Christians they ought to be.

I believe God can again awaken us and quicken in us the experience, the compassion, and evangelical fervor that has characterized Original Free Will Baptists of the past generations. I believe what God has promised in His Word, and that He will do it if we meet His conditions. He will not give His Spirit to a people whose hearts are not clean, and who do not hunger for the living God.

May we claim His promise in Jeremiah 29:12-14: "Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart . . . ."

May He move among us with His resurrecting power!

In His Name,
Frank R. Harrison
Chaplain

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 3

GOD'S ULTIMATE WORD

Lesson Text: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2: 1-8

Memory Verse: Hebrews 1:1, 2

I. INTRODUCTION

Stern and forbidding, the city wall stood high and looked across an empty plain. In the guarded chamber of the gate sat the king. Anxiety tore his mind and heart as he thought of the battle raging in the woods some miles away.

Suddenly came a shout from the tower above the gate. "I see a man running—alone!"

"Alone?" The king leaped to his feet. "Then he brings news!"

"He looks like Ahimaaz," the watchman called. "Ahimaaz ben Zadok."

Now the king's heart leaped with joy. "A good man! He brings good news!"

And it was true. At the gate the good man panted out the tidings of victory.

Then came another runner. This one was not known to the watchman. He was not even a man of Israel. The runner, a foreigner from Cush, stumbled to the gate with tragic news. The king's son was dead (2 Samuel 18:24-33).

In the Book of Hebrews the inspired writer emphasizes the magnificence of the Christian message by extolling the greatness of the messenger, the Son of God.

The writer of Hebrews is not certainly known, and even in ancient times there were some who doubted that his work had a place among the inspired Scriptures. But read the book. When you see the grandeur of it, when you see how perfectly it fits and complements the other sacred writings, you can hardly doubt that it comes from God. If a good man is chosen for a good message, then this book must have been brought by a magnificent man of God.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today, we begin a five-lesson study of the Book of Hebrews. The study of this letter to the Hebrews seeks to challenge us to steadfastness of faith on the basis of the superiority of God's revelation in Jesus Christ. He is greater than all that preceded Him in Hebrew religion, including the Law, the priesthood, the tabernacle, the Old Covenant, and the sacrifices. Believers will be challenged to move toward maturity in Jesus Christ. Persecuted Christians are encouraged to hold on to their faith, and unbelievers are challenged to believe.

B. The five lessons from this book deal with five different dimensions of the work of Christ. The first deals with the supremacy of God's revelation in Jesus Christ (Hebrews 1:1—2:9). The second focuses on Christ's work as pioneer of our salvation (2:10—4:13). The third concentrates on Christ's work as our High Priest (4:14—7:28). The fourth relates to the New and better Covenant that is ours in Jesus Christ (Chapters 8 and 9). The final lesson underscores Christ's work as Perfector of our faith (Chapters 10—13).

C. The author of the Book of Hebrews is unknown, although it is frequently ascribed to the Apostle Paul. What is important is that it is God's Word.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "Jesus Christ is greater than all that preceded him in Hebrew religion, including the law, the priesthood, the tabernacle, the old covenant, and the sacrifices" *(Uniform Series)*. The writer of the Book of Hebrews points out this fact with great clarity, magnifying the name of Christ above all other names, and showing Him to be all that He claimed to be during His three and a half years of earthly ministry.

B. This first lesson takes us back to the familiar passage of Hebrews 1:1-4 wherein we see the supremacy of God's revelation in Christ. These thoughts are extended throughout the rest of Chapter 1 with a special emphasis upon the nature of Christ but which will not be a part of the lesson text for today. The second part of the lesson text takes us into Chapter 2 where we are cautioned against allowing the message of salvation to escape us or slip away. The last part compares the position of man with that of angels, providing also a hint of how Christ humanly speaking, became lower than the angels that He might lift man to higher heights in the sight of God.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

Use another source for your Sunday school lesson reading next week because there will not be a **Free Will Baptist.**

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Gurney A. Chase announces that he is available for full-time pastoral services. He is a member of the Eastern Conference and may be contacted by writing to him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina; phone, 523-3429.



SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Scripture Reading—John 14:12

HOW TO CLEAN
UP CORRUPTION

Shortly after a young pastor began his ministry in a small city, one of the members of the church said to him, "Pastor, I have been designated by the official board of our church to talk to you about the corruption in our city. Our mayor is a corrupt, conniving politician. The chief of police is in league with the underworld. Many of us doubt the integrity of our councilmen. We want you to preach against the corruption of our city."

The pastor replied, "Give me a little time to think about what I ought to do, and I'll take the appropriate steps."

Weeks passed and the young pastor spoke no condemning words concerning the alleged corruption of the city officials. In time, he made an appointment to meet with the mayor.

The mayor received him graciously. Then the pastor said, "Mr. Mayor, I want to take just a few minutes of your valuable time. I congratulate you upon the confidence the people of our city have reposed in you by electing you to your position of responsibility. I also want to tell you that there is a much higher honor awaiting you if you will become a servant of Jesus Christ, the Saviour."

The pastor left and a week passed. Then one day his phone rang. The mayor said, "Sir, I must see you. It is important. I want to talk to you about becoming a Christian!"

Within two weeks after the pastor's visit with the mayor, a wondrous thing occurred in his church: the mayor, the chief of police, the chief of the fire department, and five councilmen walked down the aisle and confessed their faith in Jesus Christ! Inwardly transformed men began zealously to clean up the city, all because a young pastor personally presented Christ to a corrupt official.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Ralph Waldo Emerson said that an institution is but the lengthened shadow of one man. What great works can be accomplished when that institution is the church, created not by a "lengthened shadow" but by the living Christ!

MONDAY, APRIL 27

Scripture Reading—Genesis 2:1-3

A PRIORITY LIST

A physician sternly said to a minister, "You are just too busy. I don't know your schedule or how you spend your time, but something is out of focus. There are some things you will have to eliminate. I suggest that you set up a priority list."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Is it not significant that Jesus said to His active disciples, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while" (Mark 6:31)?

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:10-12

LESS COMPETITION

Said Indira Gandhi, "My grandfather once told me that there are two kinds of people—those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group, for there is much less competition there."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Work, for the night is coming,
Work thro' the morning hours;
Work while the dew is sparkling,
Work 'mid springing flow'rs;
Work when the day grows brighter,
Work in the glowing sun;
Work, for the night is coming,
When man's work is done."

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

Scripture Reading—Acts 23:6-8

THE GREAT PERHAPS

As his life came to its close, Thomas Hobbs, an outspoken agnostic, said, "I commit my spirit to the great Perhaps!"

At death's portal, the Christian can confidently say, "Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The word "agnostic" is ultimately derived from two Greek words: "a" (un or not) and "gnostos" (known). What sinister power has that little letter "a"!

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Scripture Reading—Luke 21:25-28

THE OUTLOOK AND
THE UPLOOK

How bright are the uplook and future for God's children who cherish "that blessed hope,

and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13)!

How dark and dismal are the outlook and future for those who fail to reckon with God and His gloom-dispelling, hope-kindling prophetic Word!

Professor John Holt of Yale recently said: "Nobody seriously believes that we are likely to solve, or are even moving toward a solution of, any of the most urgent problems of our times—war, the proliferation of atomic, chemical, and bacteriological weapons, overpopulation, poverty, the destruction of the earth's natural resources, the degradation of man's physical and biological environment, the fossilization and depersonalization of his political and economic institutions, his increasing alienation, boredom, and anger! We do not think any more that we can really make the world a fit and happy and beautiful place for people to live. We scarcely think that we can keep it a place where people can live at all!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

As God's children scan world horizons through the telescope of the "sure word of prophecy," they are constrained to exclaim, "The coming of the Lord draweth nigh" (James 5:8).

FRIDAY, MAY 1

Scripture Reading—Luke 23:39-43

GLORIFYING CRIME

In the *Baptist Standard,* J. W. Lassater said, "At times I feel that both myself and my son are doomed to failure because we do not have a background of crime or drug addiction, nor are we converts from some spurious religion.

"Recently I was asked to use a certain man in my church. I asked why. The reply was, 'Because he was once a member of the Clyde Barrow gang!'

"We rejoice in the mightiness of God to save men from a life of crime and degradation. But it is high time that we cease glorifying crime and playing it up to the point that our young people are made to feel such a background makes one a 'super servant' of Christ and is a prerequisite to Christian service."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Hallelujah, what a Saviour!
Who can take a poor lost sinner,
Lift him from the miry clay and set him free
Hallelujah! I will ever tell the story.
Shouting glory, glory, glory,
Hallelujah! Jesus ransomed me."

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Scripture Reading—Exodus 18:20

WHO SHOULD BE BLAMED?

Self-censuringly a teacher said, "We professors have lost our religion. We do not know what people should live by. Conditions in the world demonstrate the condition of the individuals in it. Most people have been trained by teachers. We, the teachers, are most to blame for our world. We have failed."

German Chancellor Bismarck affirmed, "What you want the state to be like tomorrow, you must introduce in the schools today."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Who can overestimate the character-molding influence of a Christ-like, Bible-believing teacher?

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

Use another source for your devotional reading next week because there will not be a **Free Will Baptist.**

THANKS TO JESUS AND FRIENDS

A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly; and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24).

Thank you, Jesus, for going to Calvary, for I know if it had been only for me you still would have shed your life's blood so that I could have everlasting life. Thank you for coming into my life the night of January 13, 1977, at Black Jack Grove church, Goldsboro, to be my friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Thank you, Jesus, for each blessing, for each friend and my family, for each mountain you have helped me climb, for the strength to do the things each day brings, for picking me up and standing me on a solid rock. Thank you for your love that fills my heart for your people and the desire to do more for you each day. I just want to thank you more than words can express.

Thank you, friends, for your support and your prayers. A special thanks to my wife for being such an inspiration in times of despair and for being my prayer partner.

Thank you, members of Harrell's Chapel and Black Jack Grove, for your prayers and encouraging words. Thank you, Dr. Raper, faculty and staff of Mount Olive College, for your continued help and support. To all the ministers who have allowed me to speak at their churches, I extend a special thank you.

To the Ordaining Council of the Central Conference, I say a very special thank you.

Friends, we don't have time to waste; we must be about God's work.

Edward L. Thornton

News from

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS THROUGH MARCH 20, 1981

RECEIPTS

NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY	
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention	$ 763.23
Greenville, First	40.00
Owens Chapel	50.00
Total	$ 853.23
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	$ 8.00
Albemarle Union	14.19
Free Union	50.00
Mount Tabor	46.45
Sidney	83.40
Shiloh	11.20
Union Chapel	125.87
Total	$ 339.11
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Aspen Grove Sunday School Class	$ 25.00
Ayden	115.00
Black Jack	190.00
Central Conference Layman's League	906.80
Choice Mission	32.50
Dilda's Grove	81.09
Edgewood	30.00
Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	30.00
First, Greenville—Willing Workers	20.00
First, Rocky Mount	50.00
First, Tarboro	200.00
Friendship	100.00
Greenville Willing Workers	10.00
Grimsley	75.00
Gum Swamp	150.00
Hugo	125.00
Hull Road	600.00
King's Cross Roads	6.90
Lee's Chapel	163.71
Marlboro	10.00
Otter's Creek	91.52
Owens Chapel	150.00
Piney Grove	350.00
Reedy Branch	141.00
Reedy Branch Sunday School	151.04
Roanoke Rapids, First	9.33
Rose Hill	50.00
Rose Hill Sunday School	50.00
Saratoga	32.66
Tarboro, First	200.00
Williamston, First	41.16
Total	$4,187.71
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Eastover	$ 8.39
Haymount Mission	88.34
Hopewell	55.97
Palmer Memorial	59.49
Pleasant Grove	100.00
St. Mary's	150.00
Victory Mission	30.55
Wooten's Chapel	62.06
Total	$ 554.80
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Arapahoe	$ 200.00
Bridgeton	15.00
Fifth Union	35.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	10.00
Folkstone	300.00
Gray Branch	100.00
Jackson Heights	63.18
Mount Zion	25.00
Mount Zion, Vandemere	25.00
Oriental	10.00
Pilgrims Rest	40.00
Snow Hill	100.00
St. Mary's	250.00
Wardens Grove	17.87
Total	$1,191.05
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
First, Wilson	$ 250.00
First Union	150.00
Flood's Chapel	5.00
Fremont	400.00
Little Rock	50.00
Milbournie	150.00
Mount Zion	125.00
New Sandy Hill	100.00
Pine Level	200.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Second Union	41.25
Selma	25.00
Sherron Acres	500.00
St. Mary's	437.50
Spring Hill	155.00
Stoney Creek	25.00
Union Grove	500.00
Western District Youth Fellowship	25.00
Total	$3,188.75
PEE DEE CONFERENCE	
Oak Grove	$ 30.10
Total	$ 30.10
GRAND TOTAL	$10,344.75

OTHERS

Cragmont Club	$1,915.00
Third Union District	73.20
Fourth Union Convention	13.33
Total	$2,001.53

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

Through March 20, 1981 Total $17,991.34

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Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wilson
Velma Morris
William G. Lovic
Ruth C. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. M. V. O'Brian
Becky Jo Sumner
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Lane
Dola Dudley
The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Howell
Floyd Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Wooten
Gertrude Ballard
Helen T. Beaman
Sara M. Willoughby
The Rev. and Mrs. Bill Futch
The Rev. and Mrs. Phillip Wood
Mr. and Mrs. Stearle Pittman
Miss Janet Smith
Mr. Dalton Smith
Mrs. Peggy Hobgood
Mr. and Mrs. George Moore
Mr. Clingman Kirby
The Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Thomas
Teresa M. Darden
Martha S. Tew
Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Tyndall
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Johnson
Roscoe Eason
Brenda Garris
Shirley Boyd
Richard Bundy
Connie Corbett
Ben Gardner
Sam Hobgood
Ruth Ann Jones
Ronnie Little
Dora Pollard
Gerald Tugwell
Jefferson and Wanda Daughtry

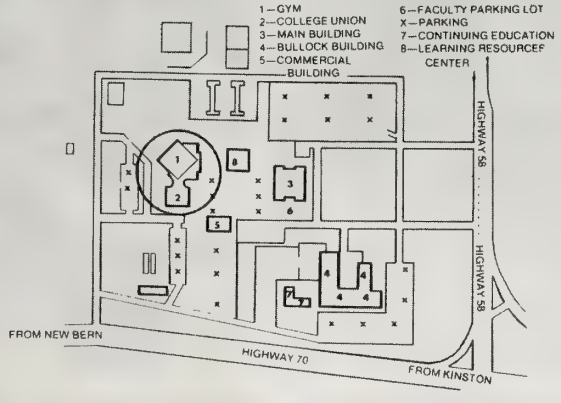
Thank you to these people for their support of Cragmont through the Cragmont Club. This is a fine way to carry on the work of Free Will Baptists. Would you consider this option too?

Respectfully submitted,
John Williams, *Manager*

ALL ROADS LEAD TO KINSTON AND THE STATE YOUTH CONVENTION!

Saturday, April 25, 1981
Lenoir Community College

Registration Begins at 9:15 a.m.
Session to Begin at 9:30 a.m.



Coming Events

April 25—State Youth Convention, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina, 9:30 a.m.

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

May 5—Retirement Homes Board of Directors will meet at 10 a.m. in the conference room at the Children's Home

May 5—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 1 p.m., Children's Home, Middlesex

May 10—Mother's Day

May 10—Children's Home Day in Local Churches (If your church does not meet on that Sunday, choose another more convenient Sunday.)

May 11—Quarterly Meeting of Board of Trustees, Mount Olive College

(Continued on Page 15)

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

HOLLY SPRINGS GIVES $3,557.85



The Slaughters—Gilbert, Florine, and Paige

The Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Carteret County presented the Children's Home a check in the amount of $3,557.85 on Sunday, March 29, 1981. The check was presented to Mr. Humphrey by Mr. Gilbert Slaughter and Mrs. Lois Bryan, clerk of the church. The idea for the project originated with Mr. Slaughter's family. With the help of the Brotherhood and the Woman's Auxiliary, the Slaughters providing the pork, an annual barbecue dinner is held.

Since all the food is donated and all the labor provided by the Holly Springs members, the entire proceeds from the dinner are presented to the Children's Home.

Pictured below is a scene from this year's dinner. Since 1977, these annual dinners have enabled Holly Springs to give $8,061.60. This year Holly Springs expects to reach $5,000 in contributions to the Children's Home. Why not consider a similar project for your church and be numbered in the top ten in gifts to our Children's Home this year?



Wilma Phagan, Rena Kirk, and Joyce Lane



(Left to right): Mary Gurganus, Faye McCain, Tricia Neal, Lula Kelly, and Gilbert Slaughter

"THREE NEW FAMILY MEMBERS"



Freddie Lane Gray

We would like to introduce you to our three newest family members. One-year-old Freddie lives with foster parents, Mickey and Brenda Renfrow. The Renfrows are from the Marsh Swamp church. Freddie's two sisters, Cynthia—nine, and Lou Ann—twelve years old, live in Central Cottage. Freddie, Cynthia and Lou Ann joined our family on April 3.



Cynthia and Lou Ann Gray

We would invite you to consider one of these children for sponsorship. Their family has made plans for their visiting weekends.

Be sure to look them up on your next visit and say hello.

AUXILIARY NEWS

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

There will be a district-wide study course for the Woman's Auxiliaries of the Eastern District, on May 2, 1981, at St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Fleet Street, New Bern, North Carolina. The course will begin at 10 a.m. and will last approximately two hours.

The topic for the course will be "The Manual and Methods of the Woman's Auxiliary." Three capable speakers have accepted this challenge—Mrs. Carol Prescott, Mrs. D. W. Hancock and Mrs. Happy Taylor. It is certain that you will gain useful information about the auxiliary.

Please encourage each member of your auxiliary to attend and enjoy the Christian fellowship and learn more about your work for God as an auxiliary member.

Eva Belle Brinson
District Study Course Chairman

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere is scheduled for the week after Father's Day, June 22-26.

Monday will be **Woman of the Year Day.** If you have not chosen yours yet, don't let another week pass without it! Select her soon and send her resume to me; but send **her** to the Woman's Conference. If she can't stay the whole week, have her there for the day and through the evening service. We have something special planned in her honor.

In 1979 we had five; and in 1980 we had ten. Can we double it again?

The fee for the full week is $40. Special rates are available for overnight and/or single meals. Send registration to Mrs. Happy Taylor, Route 2, Box 187, Deep Run, North Carolina 28525. Enclose Woman of the Year resume, or send it to me, Nina Grace Register, 604 Rountree Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

Nina Grace Register

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Fifty-fourth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene with Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina, on May 14, 1981. It will be hosted by the Eastern District Auxiliary Convention. The theme will be "Redeemed for a Purpose." The Scripture will be taken from John 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Praise Him, Praise Him"
—Invocation
—Devotion, Mrs. Mamie Kennedy
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Rena Kirk
—Response, Mrs. Frances Carraway
10:20—Greetings, Mrs. John Taylor, President
—Recognition of Personalities
—Business Session
10:50—Special Recognition Honoring Mrs. D. W. Hansley, Mrs. Rachel Duncan
11:00—Morning Worship
—Hymn, "My Savior's Love"
—Offering
—Special Music, Sandy Plain Church
—Convention Message, Mrs. Lizzie Dawson
—Hymn, "Grace Greater

(Continued on Page 13)

NEWS & NOTES

Youth Group Has Rock-a-Thon



The rockers were left to right: (Front row) Paul Kelly, Chad Horton, Amy Braswell and Dawn Barnes; (second row) Chris Radford and Michelle Faucette; (third row) Dale Holloway, Chris Crocker, Allan Braswell, John Crocker, Adrienne Cole, Kim Parrish, and Chris Whitley; (back row) Pam Deal, Mark Radford, Doug Radford, Sheila Mitchell, Frankie Herring, Robert Cole, Debbie Holloway, Tracy Deal, and Dick Brown. Mike Pittman rocked but was not present for the picture.

The Youth Group of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church on Highway 70 West, near Goldsboro, held a rock-a-thon on February 20, 1981. This was their way of contributing to the new wing just completed on the church, which houses five Sunday school rooms and rest rooms. They raised $1,672.27.

The AFC began at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 20, and were free to rock as long as they could, or until 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 21. The YFA came in at 11 p.m., Friday, and rocked until 11 a.m., Saturday. Some of the young people participated anywhere from 3 hours up, with most of them rocking 12 hours. There were 3 who rocked 16 hours. There were 23 participants ranging in age from 6 to 21. Refreshments were served all during the night, breakfast was cooked early Saturday morning, and lunch was served by the Ladies Auxiliary. There were 3 films shown, which fed them spiritually.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. William L. Dale.

Revival Services at Arapahoe Church

Revival services will be held at Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, on Wednesday through Friday, April 22-24. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Buddy Sasser, pastor of Oak Grove church near Vanceboro. He sings with the Four in Christ Quartet, and is an announcer for gospel radio station WBIC in New Bern. There will be special music featured each evening. A nursery will be provided. The pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, extends a cordial welcome from the church membership to everyone to attend these services.

Spring Hill Church to Have Revival Services

Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, 4556 Highway 70 West, Goldsboro, North Carolina, will have revival services beginning on Sunday night, April 26, and will continue through Friday, May 1. The Sunday night service will begin at 7 p.m. with the New Creations from Mount Olive College presenting a time of worship in song and testimony, followed by the revival message. The time of the services for Monday through Friday will be 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. Frank Flowers, pastor of Little Creek church, will be the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. William L. Dale, and the congregation extend a welcome to everyone to attend these services.

Calvary Church Has New Pastor



The Rev. John Boykin family

The Rev. John Boykin has assumed the pastorate of Calvary Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina. The church will have a picnic lunch on April 26 to welcome their new pastor and his family. All members, former members and friends of the church are invited.

Mr. Boykin comes with his wife, Mitzi, and daughters, Melinda and Johnna from the pastorate at Rock Springs church of Bailey, North Carolina.

Crab Point Church Announces Upcoming Activities

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of gospel music at Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, Morehead City, North Carolina, Sunday morning, April 26, at 11 a.m.

Revival services are scheduled at Crab Point church from April 26—May 1. The first service, which will feature The Gabriels from New Bern, will begin at 7 p.m. The Rev. J. C. Yates, pastor of Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church, will be the guest evangelist; he will speak for the remainder of the services. There will be special music each night. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday night.

The pastor, the Rev. Roland C. Cherry, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend.

St. Paul Church to Have Revival Services

Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, will host a spring revival, April 27 through May 1, with the Rev. David Ricks as the evangelist. He pastors Mount Tabor church in Creswell, North Carolina. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m., with special singing nightly. The pastor, the Rev. Joe Griffith, and the congregation invite the public to worship with them.

Core Creek Church to Observe Homecoming

Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, North Carolina, will be having its annual homecoming on May 3, 1981. The Rev. L. B. Manning, a former pastor, will be the guest speaker.

Dinner will be served following the morning worship service. The pastor, the Rev. Bass Mitchell, and members invite all former pastors, and members to come and enjoy the Christian fellowship.

Barnes Hill Church Announces Revival Services

Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Nashville, North Carolina, announces revival services, April 23 through April 25, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Walton Parrish, pastor of Union Chapel church, is the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Robert Langley, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Program of Gospel Music Planned at Hugo Church

The Singing Taylors from Kinston, North Carolina, will present a program of gospel music at Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, near Grifton, Sunday evening, April 26, at 7 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, and the church congregation invite everyone to come.

News from

Home Missions

THANK YOU

The Directors of the Home Missions Board want to express their thanks to all Free Will Baptist churches, pastors, and members who responded to the need of Taylor Hill. To date, the Board has received and passed on to Brother Hill approximately $6,000 for medical expenses. Your response was a great show of Christian love and concern. Please continue to pray for Brother Hill and the Board as we continue to work for the Lord. May God bless each and every one of you.

Ray Wells, *Chairman*
Home Missions Board

CALL TO PRAYER

One of the greatest needs of the Home Missions Board at this time is for someone to lead our Charlotte Mission. This mission is one of our best mission points. The Lord has blessed this work with a beautiful building and some very strong and dedicated members. Please pray concerning this matter.

Ray Wells, *Chairman*
Home Missions Board

AUXILIARY NEWS

(Continued from Page 11)

Than Our Sin"
12:00—Lunch
BUSINESS SESSION
1:00—Hymn, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Joyce Brown
—Special Music
1:20—Miscellaneous Business
—Report of Committees
2:30—Adjournment
—Benediction
Pianist, Host Church
Song Leader, Host Church

UNION GROVE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY ENTERTAINS SENIOR CITIZENS



On Saturday night, April 11, the Woman's Auxiliary of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Fremont, entertained 32 senior citizens with a supper.

A program of music was rendered by the two youth choirs. Mrs. Deanye Morris and Mrs. Betty Overman gave some background on the growth of the church. A good time was enjoyed by everyone who attended.

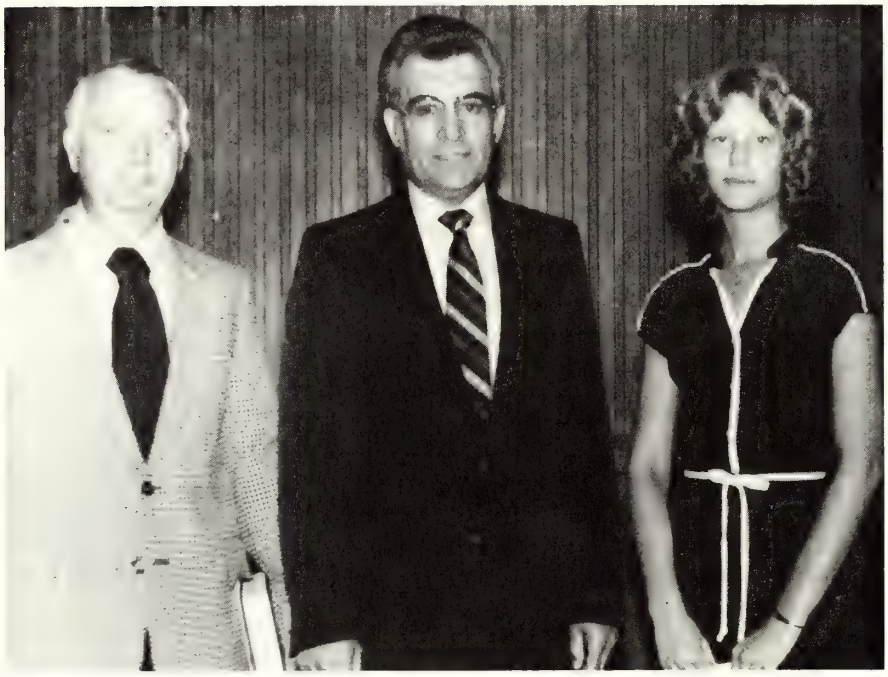
The AFC gave each guest a ceramic napkin holder, and the YFA presented a flower to them.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

"REFLECT ON YOUR LIFE" IS A MESSAGE GIVEN TO MOC STUDENTS

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.



The Rev. Ed Gonzalez, center, is pictured with Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College Chaplain, and Linda Holland, freshman at Mount Olive College and member of Rains Cross Roads church. (Photo by Teresa Pittman.)

To be successful we must periodically take stock of our life and goals and commit ourselves to the tasks before us. That is what the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez told Mount Olive College students in a recent chapel service. Mr. Gonzalez is pastor of Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church.

Mr. Gonzalez said there comes a time when everyone must "take a walk" in order to reflect on the things that really matter in life. "You and I must take a walk and evaluate our work. We must think things through if we are to successfully traverse through this place and receive the trophy of achievement," he said.

Using a Biblical example, Mr. Gonzalez said Jesus took time to think about the mission that was before Him. "He realized the paramount issues that faced Him and determined that nothing would stop Him from accomplishing the things He had to do in Jerusalem."

Mr. Gonzalez applied the message to the students by challenging them to take seriously their educational preparation in life. "Just as the Lord said that nothing would stop Him from His work in Jerusalem, so you must determine that nothing will stop you

CARTERET YOUTH FELLOWSHIP VISITS MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Kelly Buck, president of the Carteret Youth Fellowship, and approximately forty members of Crab Point, Sound View and Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Churches, in Carteret County visited the Mount Olive College campus, on Saturday, April 4. The group toured the buildings, met current Mount Olive College students, had a picnic lunch, played softball with some present and past students, had short meetings in the chapel and visited Eagles Nest Conference Center.



from gaining an education here."

"Your work here is very important," he said. "You must take time to think about why you are here because if you take these years lightly, you will lose this opportunity forever."

"I encourage you to take a walk and reflect on your life and your work at the College so that you will achieve the really important things in life."

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

BUILDING FUND REACHES $1 MILLION AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive College has passed the $1 million mark in gifts and pledges to College Hall, a $2.5 million athletic and convention center, announced College President Dr. W. Burkette Raper.

The schedule for the project is to award contracts this fall, and construction is projected to take eighteen months.

The building is designed to serve not only the College, but the community and the Free Will Baptist Church.

Construction of College Hall represents the first phase of Mount Olive's plan to become a four-year college. The development of curricula, library resources, instructional equipment, faculty and student services comprise the major factors in Mount Olive's advancement to senior college status.

"Mount Olive College is at a major turning point in its history and in its service to the Free Will Baptist denomination. The success of the College Hall project represents the enthusiasm and support of many good friends who want to see the College grow," remarked Dr. Raper.

MUSIC FESTIVAL DRAWS NEAR



The 1981 Christian Music Festival will be held at Eagles Nest Conference Center on Saturday, March 2. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will continue until 5 p.m. The purposes of this music festival are "to honor and glorify God through Christian music" and to provide an opportunity for a day of good Christian fellowship. The theme for this year's festival is "His Sheep Am I."

The groups that will be participating in the festival are The Hopper Brothers and Connie (pictured) of Madison, North Carolina; The Heavenbound of Kinston; The Watchmen of Goldsboro; The Master's Quartet of Pikeville; and The New Creations of Mount Olive College.

The Christian Music Festival is open to the public, and Mount Olive College urges everyone to come. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro at a cost of $3.25 per plate. Those wishing to bring a picnic lunch are invited to do so.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

White Oak Free Will Baptist Church near LaGrange will observe Sunday, April 26, as "Mount Olive College Day."

The Rev. Melvin K. Everington, pastor, has announced that Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will visit the church on this date. At 10 a.m. he will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes and at 11 a.m. he will be the speaker for the morning worship service.

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 9)

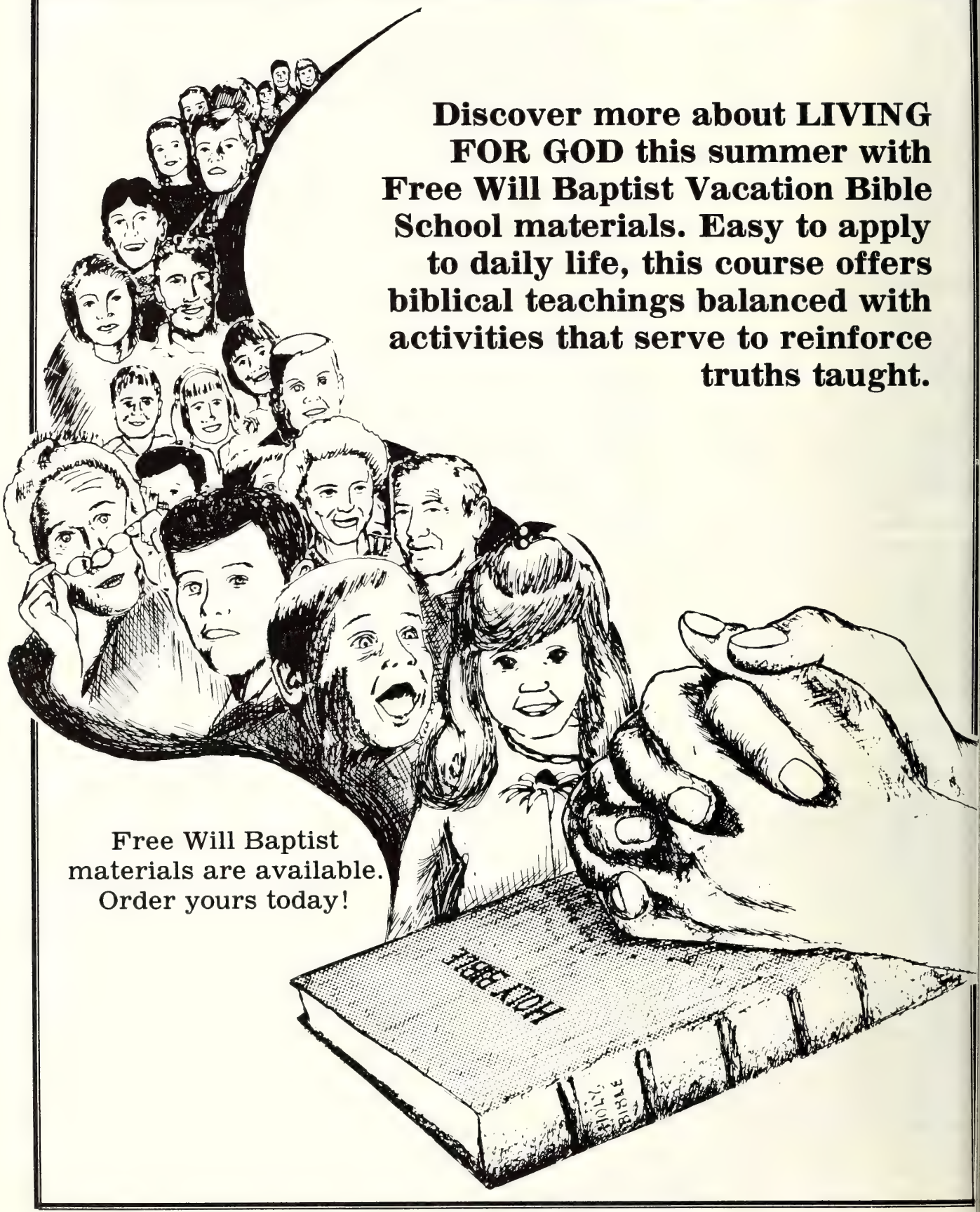
May 12—Foreign Missions Board of Directors Meeting

May 14—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill (near Beulaville)

May 15—Commencement at Mount Olive College, 6 p.m., Moye Library Lawn

May 20—Children's Home Board of Directors Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room at the Children's Home

May 31—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention



Discover more about LIVING FOR GOD this summer with Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School materials. Easy to apply to daily life, this course offers biblical teachings balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.

Free Will Baptist materials are available. Order yours today!

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



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MAY 1981
DURHAM, N.C.

The Way of the Cross?

Mr. Smith attended The Free Will Baptist Church for many years. He had always been able to weather conflicts and the resulting problems until a few weeks before he died. Some members of the congregation said he was going in one direction while they were going in another. Some say he lost his will to live; the doctors agree. Is it not tragic that "Christians" become so critical, even hostile?

Never can I remember hearing of such discontent among our ranks as now. Christians are rising up against Christians; congregations and pastors are "at war"; those in positions of leadership are being attacked—yea, even envied—by those who are not (for surely they know a better way). Trouble of great magnitude seems to be characteristic. Ministers speak of experiencing significant stress in their ministries. While the average church member joins 3-4 churches during his lifetime, the average minister stays at a church 3-5 years. (Ministers leave churches because of existing problems 66 percent of the time.)

Individuals who feel they are losing control, that no one is listening to them, are often at the root of turmoil. They may be rather outspoken and possess attitudes, interests, and concerns similar to the rest of the members of their group. At times distinctive segments become so pronounced that members are referred to as "us" and "them." This is first evident in the early stages of the church-splitting syndrome. In fact, it can become so bad that members of a group are labeled "the unsaved." "Frustrations and corporate failures are often given doctrinal pegs on which to hang personality differences."

Not all problems result from personality conflicts; some are caused by legitimate, important, doctrinal issues; and the major doctrinal disagreement concerns God's authority. Both sides believe that if the other side would give in to God's will, existing problems would vanish. Unfortunately, they just do not agree as to what God's will is.

It is quite traumatic for all concerned to worship where tension is at a high level; and even though a split may not occur, major explosions take their toll. Seldom do people consider the trauma they will face as a result of spearheading change; seldom do individuals consider what the ultimate effects will be on the ministry of the church, group, or denomination. (Yet we must not be afraid to sound our clarions as did the prophets of old; we must stand up for what is right!) Some members will remain, but will be less active; some will work hard to overcome, while others will just become bitter and resentful; quite a few will stop going; valuable church members often take their beautiful talents elsewhere. Often when the shouting is over, those who remain "rattle around like a marble in a shoebox." The church loses its effectiveness; the world hollers back, "Get your house in order before we discuss the condition of mine" (smiling all the

(Continued on Page 14)

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 96 Number 17

May 6, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice-President; Robert May, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Dewey C. Boling, and Willis Wilson.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Acting Editor of Literature.**

Prayer for Mother's Day

by Peter Marshall

On this day of sacred memories, our Father, we would thank Thee for our mothers who gave us life, who surrounded us early and late with love and care, whose prayers on our behalf still cling around the Throne of Grace, a haunting perfume of love's petitions.



Help us, their children, to be more worthy of their love. We know that no sentimentality on this one day, no material gifts—no flowers or boxes of candy—can atone for our neglect during the rest of the year. So in the days ahead, may our love speak to the hearts who know love best—by kindness, by compassion, by simple courtesy and daily thoughtfulness.

Bless her whose name we whisper before Thee, and keep her in Thy perfect peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

News from

Cragmont Assembly

CRAGMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET



The Cragmont Board of Directors met at Cragmont, April 3rd and 4th. After a tour of the campus, a lengthy discussion took place concerning improvements that need to be made. Included in these possible projects is the renovation of the motel involving heat, carpet and bathroom repairs. Because of low funds at present and the approximately $40,000 payment on the main building due in November, it was deemed unwise to undertake a major project such as this at this time. However, as funds become available, it was decided to consider the possibility of breaking this project down into stages. This will be more fully discussed at a later date.

Another new project presented for discussion was the purchase of commercial washers and dryers and sheets and pillowcases. This would enable us to do our own linens instead of renting them from a linen service. It was estimated that because of the initial investment it would take about three years before realizing a savings. This project, too, is being looked into further for later discussion.

Another area of important Cragmont business that was discussed is that of a policy for booking weekend retreats. The board is now in the process of forming such a policy to be used beginning in the 1982 season.

Other important Cragmont business was discussed and taken care of at this meeting. From the manager's point of view, I am very pleased that the board has decided to have a yearly meeting here at Cragmont where they can actually inspect the buildings and grounds and get a first-hand idea of our needs. Since they are the ones empowered to make the important Cragmont decisions, this is very important.

Earlier in this article, the main building payment, due in November, was mentioned. We depend on the contributions from our churches to make this payment. Please remember how much Cragmont needs you as your church budgets are being prepared. We appreciate your past support and trust you to continue to respond to our financial needs. Also, we request your prayers for the ministry of Cragmont as our 1981 camping season begins.

Children's Home News

The month of May is set aside by the State Convention as Children's Home Month. May is a fitting month for this because it is during May that Mother's Day and the Festival of the Christian Home is celebrated. Churches throughout the land will honor Mothers and emphasize family life.

Already this year, nearly 50 different children and their families have felt the touch of God's hand through the ministry of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. The brokenness, the hurt and the loneliness have been overshadowed by the wings of ministering angels. These ministering servants of God came from all walks of life and from churches, large and small, throughout the Free Will Baptist demonination. They pray daily, fervently, and with compassion, for the precious souls of the little ones in our care here at the Children's Home. They open wide their hearts and their hands and give often until it hurts, so that some abused, neglected, dependent child can know abundant life.

During May, 1981, we challenge every one of our Convention churches and everyone within the churches to make the Children's Home, the children and the staff, an object of

(Continued on Page 9)

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 17

OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Lesson Text: Hebrews 4:14—5:10
Memory Verse: Hebrews 4:16

I. INTRODUCTION

In the more informal and democratic churches of today, many people get the impression that there are no priests. To them the word *priest* calls to mind the elaborate hierarchy of Roman Catholicism or the Church of England. Viewing the simple organization of today's nonsectarian congregation, it is easy to conclude no priest is there.

That conclusion is not correct, however. The Book of Hebrews tells us the priesthood was changed (Hebrews 7:12), but not that it was abolished.

In Old Testament times a multitude of priests took their turns at offering sacrifices and serving in the temple. The father of John the Baptist was one of them (Luke 1:5-9). Every day of the year they faithfully performed their duties at the altar and in the Holy Place. But on only one day of the year the high priest carried the blood of sacrifice into the Most Holy Place to make atonement for the sins of the people (Hebrews 9:6, 7).

Though the priesthood has been changed, the old order provides a picture and prophecy of the priesthood that is permanent. "We have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God" (Hebrews 4:14). Once for all He went into the Most Holy Place, not in the temple of Jerusalem, but in Heaven eternal, making atonement with His own blood for the sins of mankind (9:11, 12). But the high priest is not the only priest. Every Christian also is a priest, serving God daily and offering spiritual sacrifices (1 Peter 2:5). No, the priesthood has not been abolished. God has more priests than ever before.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. J. Sidlow Baxter, in his, *Explore the Book,* has divided the Book of Hebrews into three sections: I. Jesus—the New and Better Deliverer (Chapters 1—7); II. Calvary—the New and Better Covenant (8—10:18); III. Faith—the True and Better Principle (10:19—13). As has been pointed out in the previous lessons, the main theme of the book is the superiority of Christ. In the section in which we are working, we have seen how Christ is superior to the angels, to Moses, to Joshua; today we are going to see how He is superior to Aaron. Being superior to the angels makes Him the best God-Man; being superior to Moses makes Him the superior Apostle; being superior to Joshua makes Him the superior Leader; and being superior to Aaron makes Him the superior Priest.

B. In the Old Testament, there are two institutions or types of persons who had to do with men and their relationship to God. First, there was the priest who went to God for man. He was the intermediary that stood between God and man. Second, there was the prophet who went to man for God. He received the message from God and then carried it to men. Of course, Jesus Christ was both prophet and priest. But in this lesson today, we will see Him as the superior priest who was better than Aaron, the first High Priest.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

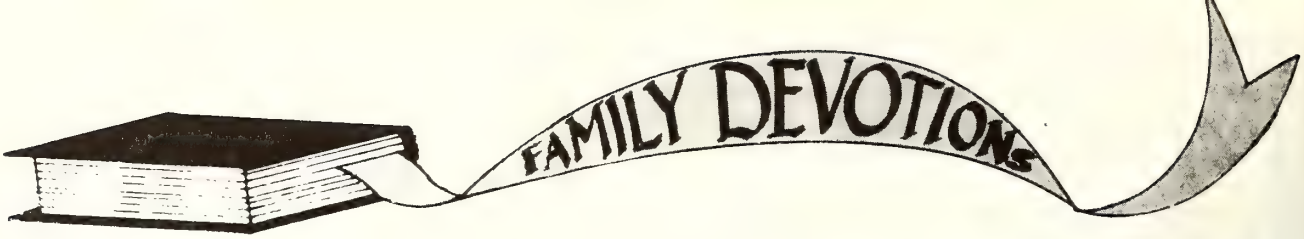
III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Christian privileges we have had all our lives often become commonplace because we have never had anything less. Take the matter of prayer for instance. All our lives we were taught to pray to the Father through Jesus Christ, His Son. We have never known anything different; we are so accustomed to it that we pray directly to God without realizing how important a privilege it is. It has not always been this way.

B. The ancient Jew, in Old Testament times, could not do this. He had a priest to do his praying. Only the high priest had access to the most holy place of the tabernacle or the temple, as it became later. Entering into the Holy of Holies once a year he would sprinkle the blood of a lamb upon the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant and pray for his people.

C. But when Jesus died on the Cross the Word says that the veil in the temple which shut out all but the high priest from the Holy of Holies was torn apart, signifying that from then on any may enter and pray. Each Christian became his own high priest and could enter boldly. However, Christ remained our Great High Priest who, after His Ascension to the Father, perpetually presents our prayers to God. That is why we pray through His name. He is our advocate and pleads our case before the throne of God.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**



SUNDAY, MAY 10

Scripture Reading – Luke 21:25-33

"WHICH WAY
CAN WE TURN?"

In his last speech in Parliament as Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill gloomily and dejectedly said, "Which way can we turn to save our lives and the future of the world? It does not matter so much to old people. They are going soon anyway. But I find it poignant to look at youth in all its activity and ardor, and, most of all, to watch little children playing their many games, and wonder what would lie before them if God wearied of mankind."

In a world filled with dread and gloom, this fear-allaying directive comes to God's children with clarity, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up . . . for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:28).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The coming of the Lord draweth nigh!

MONDAY, MAY 11

Scripture Reading – Daniel 9:3-15

CONFUSION OF FACE

The presiding officer of a service club was badly mixed up when introducing a guest speaker. He said, "Our distinguished speaker today is from Oklahoma. He is a ranchman, and he has made a million dollars!"

Responding, the guest speaker said, "I am not from Oklahoma. I am from Texas. I am not a ranchman. I am an oilman. And I haven't *made* a million dollars. I *lost* a million dollars."

How illustrative of the jumbled thinking of many today in our morally and spiritually confused world who "call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness" (Isaiah 5:20).

What would happen if even an appreciable number of God's children in our nation would penitently confess that "to us belongeth confusion of face . . . we have sinned against thee (God)" (Daniel 9:8), and would turn brokenheartedly from sin to God?

PRAYER THOUGHT

To the LORD our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him (Daniel 9:9).

TUESDAY, MAY 12

Scripture Reading – James 3

ALTAR TOO SHORT

After Bud Robinson had preached a searching sermon on the evils of an uncontrolled, unsanctified tongue, a notorious gossiper went forward and said, "Brother Robinson, I want to lay my tongue on the altar!"

Robinson said, "Woman, the altar is only sixteen feet long. However, put as much of your tongue on it as you can!"

Is anything deadlier or more destructive than the tongue?

PRAYER THOUGHT

But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison (James 3:8).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Scripture Reading – Psalm 13:3-6

GAVE MORE THAN ASKED

After Charles Haddon Spurgeon had won fame as a mighty gospel preacher, his mother said to him, "Charles, I constantly prayed that you would give your life to Christ, never that you would become a Baptist minister."

With a twinkle in his eye, Charles facetiously retorted, "Mother, the Lord answered your prayers according to His usual bounty and gave you more than you asked for!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me (Psalm 13:6).

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Scripture Reading – Matthew 20:20-28

GREATNESS MANIFESTED

As Dr. John Broadus bade a guest in his home goodnight, he said, "Don't forget to leave your shoes outside your door."

Next morning the guest was delighted to observe that his shoes had been brightly shined.

Each night thereafter he placed his shoes outside his door. Next morning he found them shined.

On the morning of his departure, the guest wanted to thank the one who had rendered the lowly service. Watching through the opened door of his room, he saw Dr. Broadus himself coming with his shoes!

How surprised he was to learn that the great scholar and Christian, Dr. Broadus, was the one who had been performing the lowly, helpful task!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister (Matthew 20:28).

FRIDAY, MAY 15

Scripture Reading – Matthew 28:16-20

CLOSER THAN BREATHING

Said Tennyson, "Closer is He (Christ) than breathing, nearer than hands and feet!"

"Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24).

SATURDAY, MAY 16

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 5:14-21

JEROME HINES TESTIFIED

"Until I was thirty, I had no direct experience that would convince me God was a personal being. I thought of God as a vague cosmic force, incapable of doing miracles and definitely not interested in doing anything for individuals. Later, I discovered to my complete satisfaction as a scientifically trained person, that there is a real God. In fact, I am bold to say that I know Him *personally!* I want to tell everybody that Jesus Christ is not just a great Teacher, that Christianity is not merely a philosophy to live by, nor a religion to choose. Christianity is receiving into one's heart and life the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for our sins. My whole philosophy of life has changed. All I have is no longer mine. It belongs to Jesus Christ!

"Something wonderful has happened to me! It is so marvellous, such a thrilling experience, *it's too good to keep to myself!* Everyone can have this exciting privilege of knowing Christ. You'll never be the same again. It's not only for time; it's for eternity!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature . . . (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**

A RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

For the Reverend John Hubert Burress

Whereas, the Reverend John Hubert Burress at the time of his death was in the twenty-fourth year of service on the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and

Whereas, he served as secretary to the Board of Directors since the death of the Reverend J. W. Alford; and

Whereas, his services rendered as a Board Member were outstanding in every area;

Therefore, we the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., express our deep appreciation for the faithful services of a man of such unusual qualities; further

We express our profound gratitude for his dedication, and will miss his wisdom and counsel; further

We express our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Madelyn; and children, Carolyn and Stephen.

This done by the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., in regular session April 22, 1981.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. DeWitt T. Cleve Jr. is a member of the Eastern Conference and is available for full-time pastoral work or revivals immediately. He may be contacted at Box 1406, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557; phone, 726-7742.

The Rev. Gurney A. Chase announces that he is available for full-time pastoral services. He is a member of the Eastern Conference and may be contacted by writing to him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina; phone 523-3429.

NEWS & NOTES

News from East Rockingham Church



Some of the young people at East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church presented a foreign missions program on Sunday, March 22. They raised $103 for the missions telethon held that day. Concerned about missions work, the church now supports one of the missionaries working with the Mexican people.

A memorial service was held Sunday, April 12, for the Rev. Walter Carter. Mr. Carter pastored the church for 45 years, and was serving it at the time of his death.

The Rev. Eddie Edwards presently serves as pastor. He and his wife, Ruth, are loved and appreciated by the congregation.

Rock-a-thon Is Sponsored for Missions

The JWE Auxiliary of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, sponsored a rock-a-thon for missions, Friday, March 20, through Saturday, March 21. Twenty-four of the original 27 rockers managed to rock from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., raising $912.19 for foreign missions.

The rockers, whose ages ranged from six to adult, were given ten-minute breaks every three hours and were treated royally by the auxiliary members. Their fringe benefits included hot dogs, potato chips, cookies, cupcakes, candy, soft drinks, and other treats. The rockers enjoyed various games and television programs.

The rock-a-thon, which was coordinated by Mrs. Kathy Hayes and Mrs. Gracie Pittman, was an attempt by the auxiliary to raise a sizable pledge for the telethon for missions, which was held on Sunday, March 22.

Layman's League Fellowship Of Central Conference To Have Singspiration

The Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will have its spring singspiration on May 8 and May 9. The May 8 service will be held at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina, at 7:30 p.m. The service of May 9 will meet at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these enjoyable and inspiring services. There will be no admission, but a free will offering will be received for Cragmont. The program is as follows:

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Messengers
Harrell's Chapel Duet
Free Union Men's Quartet
Larry Hathaway Family
Marlboro Singers
Ormondsville Choir
Friendship Singers
The Rev. Danny and Audrey Braswell
Aspen Grove Quartet
James and Brenda Owens
The Psalms Quartet

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Melody Makers
Greenville Quartet
Bethany Singers
Rose of Sharon
The Rev. Calvin Heath, Becky and Morris Hill, and Penny Gray
Elm Grove Choir
Rose Hill Singers
Piney Grove Singers
Williamston Singers
The Chargers
Union Grove Trio

Sweet Gum Grove Church Burns Parsonage Mortgage

Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, held a mortgage burning service for their parsonage, Sunday, March 22, 1981, at the 11 a.m. church service. Mr. Willie Briley gave a brief history of the church dating back from when the parsonage fund was started going through the time the parsonage was completed.

The service centered around the theme, "Lighting the Candle." Six candles were on the communion table, each candle bore one of the letters in the word TITHES. A deacon, Clarence Barnhill, lit the candle "T" for tithes; Deacon Sam Brown lit the candle "I" for industry; Deacon Esper Futrell

lit the candle "T" for treasurer; Deacon Howard Briley lit the candle "H" for hearts; Deacon Herbert Brown lit the candle "E" for everlasting; and Trustee Roscoe Barnhill lit the candle "S" for structure. The Scripture was read by the Rev. David Hill, and the speaker for the service was Mrs. Esper Futrell. The choir sang, "Serve the Lord with Gladness" and "Speak to My Heart." The mortgage was burned by the church treasurer, Willie Briley; Herbert Brown; and Esper Futrell. Mrs. Roscoe Barnhill and Mrs. J. D. Adams sang a duet, "Bless This House." The benedition was given by the pastor.

It was with grateful appreciation that the parsonage was dedicated for service to the Lord.

This house, O Lord, is a dream come true,
A dream of many years;
With willing hands and faithful hearts
We've worked despite our fears.

In humility we come
To dedicate it now to Thee.
Accept it, Lord, and dwell within—
This Thy house shall be.

Revival in Progress At Trinity Church

Revival services are in progress through Friday, May 8, at Trinity Original Free Will Baptist Church, Wilmington, North Carolina. The Rev. Ronnie Parker, pastor of Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church, is the guest evangelist. Services begin each evening at 7:30, and special music is being featured nightly.

A special invitation is extended to everyone to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival Services to Be Held at Westside Church

The Rev. Francis Garner from Newport, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist at revival services at Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, the week of May 11 through May 15. There will be special music, an object lesson, and the little folks sing time at each service. A nursery for preschool children will be available. The time of the services is 8 p.m.

The pastor, the Rev. Wayne King, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend this series of services.

Alumni To Meet

The alumni of the Free Will Baptist Seminary and Eureka College will meet at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, West Third Street, Ayden, North Carolina, May 13, 1981. Registration begins at 10 a.m. All alumni are encouraged to attend.

Free Will Baptist Ministers Invited

All ministers in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists are invited to attend the 1981 General Baptist Ministers Conference to be held May 18-22 (Monday night to Friday dawn), at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina. This Conference is sponsored by the General Association of General Baptists, and ministers from 15 states will be present.

The cost of the Conference is $55 (this covers four nights and nine meals). Ministers can preregister, but it is not necessary. Those wishing to do so should contact Mr. Glen O. Spence, Executive Secretary of General Baptists of the General Association, 100 Stinson Drive, Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901.

A group of ministers from the State Convention will provide an old-fashioned pig-picking during the week.

Rocky Mount Church Schedules Youth Revival

A youth revival will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, May 10-13. Shelby Bradshaw, of Farmville, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker on Sunday, May 10, during the 11 a.m. service. That evening at 7, the film, "Eighteen," will be shown.

The Rev. Edmundo G. Gonzalez will speak May 11-13. Each service will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Miss Bradshaw is a graduate of Mount Olive College, William Carter Bible College, and will graduate from East Carolina University in May.

The Rev. Gonzalez is pastor at Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church near Kenly. He is a graduate of Louisburg College, Atlantic Christian College, and Princeton Theological Seminary.

The pastor, Mark S. Hobbs, invites all interested persons to attend these meetings.

Children's Home News

(Continued from Page 4)

prayer. Pray that we will be the kind of examples, as a staff, that the little ones in our care so desperately need.

We further challenge our churches and our people everywhere to reaffirm our calling to child care as a church by receiving generous offerings during the month of May.

God has blessed us with the largest number of children we have had in our care in quite some time. This simply means that God wants to bless us more. The wider we open our arms of love to homeless children, the greater God can bless us, as a people.

Your fervent prayers and generous gifts during the month of May will bring showers of blessings upon you, your church and, most of all, upon a homeless child!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

by C. F. Bowen

For several months the Foreign Mission Board has been concerned about a program for relief of hunger in the world. It is another form of mission work. Such a program has been arranged with World Vision, Inc., an agency which has been at work since 1950 and is reputable and sound. A brief description of this agency will be found in the current issue of *COMMAND.*

Included in the mutual agreement between the board and the agency are the following: (1) World Vision will furnish all needed supplies with which to raise money for the program. These include plastic money depositories in the shape of small loaves of bread which may be used to collect your gifts. Also, literature will be furnished to keep you informed of the progress made. There will be other supplies you may use which will be described in a proposed seminar to be held in May. (See below.) (2) They will supply speakers for our mission rallies from time to time as we may need them. (3) We will promote the cause of World Vision in our churches and church groups.

On Saturday, May 23, 1981, there will be a training seminar for all **pastors, youth leaders, and local mission chairmen.** Others who are interested are invited to join this group. The seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn in Kinston, on the Kinston-New Bern highway near King's Restaurant. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. and be in session until 3:30. Lunch will be served by the restaurant at $4.70 per person.

In order that we might have some idea how many to expect, please fill out the form below and mail it no later than May 10. Your promptness will be appreciated. Address your letter to the Rev. Joseph Ingram, P.O. Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. This is one meeting you will not want to miss. We hope we will have your cooperation. Your pastor will receive further information on this program, and you may discuss this with him.

TO THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

P.O. Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530

☐ **I am interested in the board's effort to enlist our people in helping relieve the world's hungry people.**

☐ **I will attend the training seminar in Kinston in order to learn how to promote this endeavor with World Vision in my church or church auxiliary.**

☐ **I will have lunch at the Holiday Inn Restaurant. I understand the meal will cost me $4.70.**

Name _____

My church position _____

Address _____

Name of my church _____

CAMP VANDEMERE HOSTS PRAYER RETREAT

Camp Vandemere will host a prayer retreat, May 15 and 16, 1981, which is open to everyone. Prayer will be the total focus of the retreat with special prayer times structured around three seminars: "The Ingredients of Prayer," "Unanswered Prayers," and "The Prayer of Faith." Seminar leaders will be Marvin Waters, Doug Skinner, and Ray Williamson.

The retreat will begin with registration at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 15, and will conclude after lunch at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 16. The cost is $12.50 per person which includes three meals and lodging. Each person will need a Bible, pen and paper, bedding, and personal items. An intense desire for fellowship, prayer study, and a tremendous blessing is especially needed.

Each person interested is asked to pre-register by notifying Ray Williamson by May 9, 1981, at Route 1, Box 3, Grantsboro, North Carolina 28529; phone, 745-3993.

Ray Williamson

CHURCHES PARTICIPATING IN THE WIDOW'S FUND

Please note that one minister has died since our last announcement: the Rev. Hubert Burress. Gifts of $50 are now due from those churches participating in the program. Please respond accordingly.

Churches will be notified through THE FREE WILL BAPTIST when a participating minister dies.

NOTICE

General Youth Conference (June 15-20) is filled. No more applications will be taken. Young people desiring to go to Cragmont should contact the directors of one of the other weeks.

News from

HOME MISSIONS

QUARTERLY REPORT FROM JANUARY 1—MARCH 31, 1981

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	$ 40.00
Albemarle Union Meeting	9.00
Corinth	25.00
Hickory Chapel	203.33
Malachi's Chapel	236.00
Mount Zion	117.76
Plymouth, First	43.80
Saint Paul	100.00
Shiloh	103.08
Sidney	211.85
Union Chapel	231.84
Total	$1,321.66

CAPE FEAR

Catalpa	$ 50.00
Casey's Chapel	136.50
Daly's Chapel	25.00
Eastover Mission	25.00
Goldsboro, First	425.00
Haymount Mission	309.23
Hopewell	78.19
Johnston Union	100.00
Lee's Chapel	154.86
Oak Grove	50.00
Palmer Memorial	82.29
Powhatan	49.35
Riverside	200.00
Shady Grove	34.00
Tee's Chapel	50.00
Victory Mission	30.55
Wooten's Chapel	122.06
Yelverton Grove	120.00
Total	$2,042.03

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 10.00
Ayden	150.00
Daniels Chapel	290.00
Edgewood	38.58
Elm Grove	201.61
Friendship (Greene County)	406.58
Greenville, First	150.00
Grimsley	14.50
Gum Swamp	105.00
Harrell's Chapel	230.00
Hickory Grove	32.55
Hugo	125.00
Hull Road	133.25
King's Cross Roads	26.83
Little Creek (Greene County)	1.50
Marlboro	91.91
Otter's Creek	92.23
Owens Chapel	100.00
Peace	9.50
Piney Grove	89.03
Reedy Branch	40.98
Roanoke Rapids, First	2.50
Rocky Mount, First	138.00
Rose Hill	60.00
Second Union	17.56
Sweet Gum Grove	50.00
Tarboro, First	750.00
Williamston, First	148.06
Winterville	288.42
Total	$3,793.59

EASTERN

Antioch	$ 100.00
Arapahoe	162.80
Beulaville	125.58
Bridgeton	37.00
Cabin	170.00
Core Creek	40.00
Crab Point	53.00
Croatan	20.00
Davis	33.40
Dublin Grove	10.00
Folkstone	500.00
Holly Springs (Newport)	282.87
Jackson Heights	94.77
Lanier's Chapel	25.00
Macedonia	25.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	50.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	25.00
New Haven	50.00
Northeast	75.00
Oak Grove (Vanceboro)	10.50
Oriental	10.00
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrim's Home	10.00
Pilgrims Rest	45.00
Rooty Branch	25.00
Russell's Creek	6.00
Sandy Plain	100.00
Smith's New Home	275.00
Snow Hill	300.00
Sound View	28.75
Spring Hope	10.00
St. Mary's (New Bern)	345.50
Wardens Grove	28.93
Westside	10.00
White Oak Grove	4.00
Wintergreen	223.91
Total	$3,387.01

INDIVIDUALS

Baker, Fred and Linda	$ 15.00
Coats, C. M.	25.00
Hansley, David W.	40.00
Total	$ 80.00

PEE DEE

Oak Grove (Bladenboro)	$ 463.55
Pee Dee District Auxiliary Convention	90.00
White Oak	21.00
Total	$ 574.55

PIEDMONT

Advance Mission	$ 50.00
Baptist Cathedral	50.00
East Rockingham	382.37
Hopewell	60.00
Total	$ 542.37

WESTERN

Agape Mission	$ 50.00
Branch Chapel	500.00
Durham, First	10.00
Everett Chapel	141.77
First Union	75.00
First Western Sunday School Convention	25.00
Flood's Chapel	15.00
Free Union (Nash County)	1.80
Fremont Chapel	407.50
Kenly	15.69
Little Rock	20.00
Living Waters	150.00
Marsh Swamp	26.37
Micro	19.74
Mount Zion (Nash County)	150.00
New Sandy Hill	100.00
Oak Grove (Wilson County)	114.04
People's Chapel	60.70
Piney Grove	77.00
Pleasant Grove	20.00
Rains Cross Roads	15.00
Selma	25.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	402.00
St. Mary's (Wilson County)	232.50
Stancil's Chapel	2.00
Stoney Creek	10.00
Unity	4.00
Watson's Grove	25.00
Wilson, First	200.96
Total	$3,046.07

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Christian Service Fund	$ 80.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	$14,867.28

Respectfully submitted,
Taylor Hill
Executive Director/Treasurer

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Floyd B. Cherry announces that he now has a new address. It is P.O. Box 280, Pine Level, North Carolina 27568. His new phone number is 965-6130.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MRS. ELLA BOYETTE VISITS COLLEGE



Dr. W. Burkette Raper, Mrs. Ella Boyette, and Mrs. V. T. Craddock

Mrs. Ella Boyette of Route 1, Kenly, recently visited Mount Olive College during which she inspected some plants and shrubbery she planted during the early stages of the landscape program on the new campus. Pictured with her are College President Burkette Raper and her daughter, Mrs. V. T. (Dorothea) Craddock. Mrs. Boyette was a member of the committee which planned the landscape program for the new campus, and many of the plants came from her private gardens. Mrs. Boyette is a member of Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County.

Her April 3 visit to the College was on the eve of her 91st birthday.

"Much of the beauty of our new campus reflects the love and work of Mrs. Boyette and her late husband, Mr. J. W. Boyette," declared President Raper. "During the time we were in the first stages of our landscape program, Mr. and Mrs. Boyette came frequently to the campus to not only bring plants and shrubs from their own gardens, but to personally set them out. To paraphrase a poet, 'The beauty Mrs. Boyette brought to our campus will be a joy forever.' "

JESUS SETS EXAMPLE OF FINISHING POWER

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

"Lots of people have good starting power, but it's the finishing power that counts." That was the theme of a recent Mount Olive College chapel message delivered by Dr. David Jenkins. Dr. Jenkins is pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Goldsboro.

"In the recent space flight, we see that what really mattered was the smooth landing. That's what showed everyone that it was a success," he said.

Dr. Jenkins used the example of a college student who has received a set of bad grades. "The student is discouraged and a friend suggests that he must quit. The student responds, 'I've got too much invested to quit now.' "

A runner who is determined to finish the race and the investor who has too much money in the stock market to get out were other examples used by Dr. Jenkins to illustrate his point.

"Starting power is cheap," he emphasized. "But, what's important for you is the ability to set a goal and then work until you reach that goal."

"Jesus' death and Resurrection is the best example of someone who worked hard to reach a goal and was rewarded because of His effort," he said. The Bible says that "with determination Jesus turned His face to Jerusalem." Finally, after careful introspection and agonizing in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus fulfilled His mission by going to the Cross.

"We call the Friday of His death, 'Good Friday' only because we see past this event to the glory of Easter," Dr. Jenkins suggested. "Suppose Jesus had quit. Suppose He had not returned to Jerusalem. Suppose He had never gone to the Cross."

(Continued on Page 14)

Christian Cadet Conference

Bobby R. Taylor
Director



Phone 758-4356

CAMPING NEWS

Greetings to you:

The staff members are exited about the events for this oncoming camping summer. Many new activities are being planned for this year. We know you will want to invite your friends and the members of your youth groups to share the camping experience of the Christian Cadet Conference.

The theme for the week will be "He's Able." The week will be June 22-27. We will be looking for your applications before June 6. June 6 will be the last day we will accept applications. Registration fee is $10 and should be sent with application. Letters of information will be sent from the Director on June 16, informing you on what you will need to carry to camp and where you will meet the bus. The cost of camp will be $65 and $5 Activity fee. (There will be an additional $2 cost for those who wish to get a picture of the group. This is an optional cost.) Please make checks payable to Christian Cadet Conference.

APPLICATION

AGES – 8 up

Name of Camper _____

Address _____

City or Town _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Height _____ Sex _____

Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____

Church _____

Pastor's Name _____

Pastor's Address _____

Send Application to: Bobby R. Taylor, Director
Route 6, Box 147-A
Greenville, NC 27834

Date Received _____

Christian Cadet Conference
June 22-27
Registration Fee $10
Balance due upon boarding bus $60

Mount Olive College

(Continued from Page 12)

Dr. Jenkins called this week the "most important week in the history of the world" because Jesus did not quit, but rather committed Himself to fulfilling His mission. "For this reason it is a week of triumph as well as tragedy."

"The greatest commentary on His ministry was His own statement that 'It is finished,' " Dr. Jenkins said.

Students were challenged to reflect on their own lives in light of Jesus' example. "Is there something in your life that you need to finish? Is there something that you need to settle with God and commit your life to? The goals you set and the commitment you make to them now can make this week the most important week in your life."

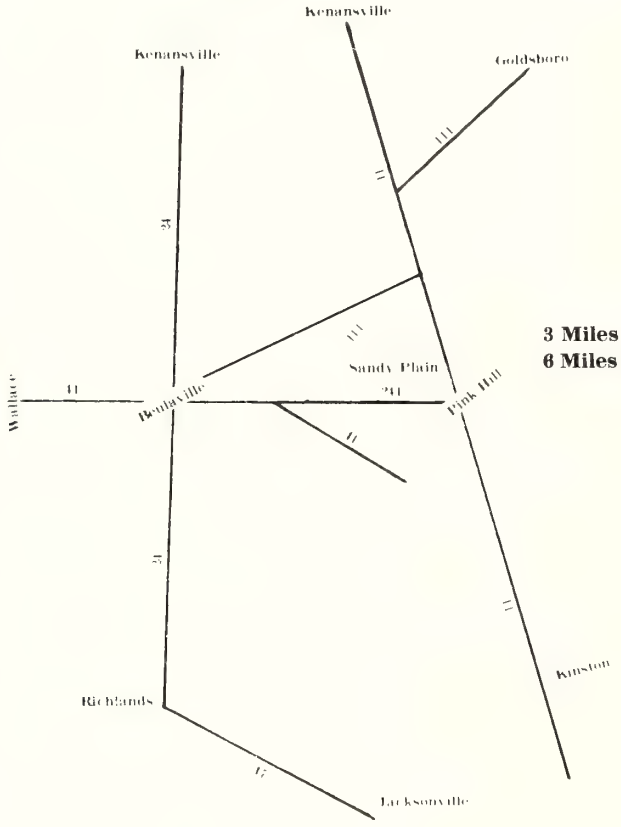
(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY STATE CONVENTION

The State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church near Pink Hill, North Carolina, on May 14. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

District Vice Presidents, please encourage your members to attend this convention.

The Eastern District is hosting the convention. Below is a map and directions to the church.



3 Miles from Beulaville
6 Miles from Pink Hill

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

while). At a time when the world is so desperately looking for harmonious answers to life's questions, can we afford to lose our credibility?

We must learn to separate issues from personalities. We must consider the results of our actions. We must remember that **our way is often not the right way;** our answers may not be **the** answers. It is time that we define our problems, establish criteria for solving them, and agree to reach some concensus. (We may even need to agree to disagree!) It is not a sign of weakness to seek help; it may be foolish not to!

Yes, we all face tension. (Churches deeply involved in evangelistic efforts always do.) But it is not tension that divides us; it is how we deal with it. We "need to create a climate where tension can be creatively dealt with in love." Jesus never said we would all agree. But He did say that men will "know ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

Brothers and sisters, a person who is not at peace with himself has difficulty being at peace with God and others. Let us examine our hearts. Love and harmony need to prevail.

Churches Available

Trent Free Will Baptist Church, Merritt (Pamlico County), is in need of a pastor. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Robert Williams. Mr. Williams can be reached by writing, Box 11, Merritt, North Carolina 28556, or by phoning (919) 745-3779.

Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Wilson, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. If interested contact Mr. Lloyd Wiggs; phone, 237-6248 (home) or 291-1390 (business).

May Is

CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



May 10 Children's Home Day in Our Churches

May 23 Founder's Day at the Children's Home

Services Begin at 10:30 a.m.

Picnic Lunch at Noon

Open House in the Afternoon

Here to Serve You!

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass church steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so that we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.



Five Locations to Serve You

Ayden New Bern Smithfield
Wilson Kinston

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The Free Will
Baptist



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

No Time to Waste: The Plea for Attention

Mental health specialists warn us that many young people are so unhappy they want to die; and teenagers are proving the specialists right—adolescents are deliberately killing themselves at a record rate. Today's young people cry out, expressing a simple plea; they ask that someone care. But the skywriting they leave behind is, "You **didn't** care!" What a simple, stark, sad message. No more vivid example comes to mind than the story of a four-year-old girl who drowned at one of her parents' dinner parties. Before, whenever she wanted attention and no one seemed to have time for her, she would jump in the swimming pool. Someone always heard her cries, saw her floundering, until that night . . . .

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among teenagers. More and more adolescents from all social, economic, racial, and religious groups are attempting to take their own lives. Mental health facilities are full; hotlines are buzzing. It is time that we look at this situation more closely. It is time we care.

Adolescents often don't know what's happening to them. Physically, emotionally, mentally, they find themselves unbalanced. They can become volatile, impulsive, out of kilter—nice one day and off the wall the next. It is true that some people are born with less resilience, less effective shock absorbers, than others. But the major difference between those who try to kill themselves and those who don't is not circumstances; it seems to involve the individual's ability to cope with life. Estrangement, self-hatred, emotional hunger, and inner debate precede the impulse to leave this life. Most young people who attempt suicide "lack that single, interested, knowing friend. They may also lack the ability to win that friend; the ability to form friendships is the most important coping skill."

Many young people find themselves not only buffeted by internal changes, but in a society without constants. Values and standards once set and firmly established, no longer seem to be valuable or standard. The home, church, school, work, marriage, family—once institutions that stood strong like great pillars along the channel of human passage—are being threatened and mocked. The time was when "mothers and fathers were frequently mistaken, but they were always unmistakenly adult."

Many seem to find it hard to believe that any young person—an individual whose skin still fits—would want to trade in (voluntarily) all he has going for him for "sepulchre bone." When told of this condition we express more exasperation than concern. "Here we are, battered survivors, hanging onto life and trying to get used to the concept of our eventual nonbeing, and these self-pitying kids are playing tag with the 'Grim Reaper' just because life is not alabaster smooth," we reason. Secretly we think, "They should know what real trouble is." Well, don't they? I would say that anyone who is disturbed enough to want to take his life knows what trouble is.

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Cover Illustration by Jerry Goff

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Volume 96 Number 18

May 13, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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FROM

THE YOUTH FRONT



Over 500 people registered at the State Youth Convention held Saturday, April 25, at Lenoir Community College. The event was hosted by the Eastern District youth, and Mrs. Deborah King, Eastern District youth chairman, saw to it that things ran smoothly.

After puppets from Westside Free Will Baptist Church welcomed everyone to the Convention, the Honorable Harold Hardison, senator from Deep Run, responded; as did a delegate from the Pee Dee District. The Piedmont District provided the morning devotion on the day's theme, "God Plus One." The "MOC News Team" reported on current events at the College, and highlights of the upcoming Youth Frontier Conference weeks were shared. Representatives from the Western and Central Districts gave the morning program.

The Albemarle District led the group in devotions after lunch; groups from Sidney, Hickory Chapel, and Sound Side churches participated.

The essay topic for the year was, "Redeeming the Time." Tony Sawyer was declared winner of the YFA contest; Paula Hargrove won the AFC contest. Tony is from Sound Side church (Albemarle); Paula attends Sidney church (Albemarle). "Abounding Aliveness" was the subject of the 1981 declamation. Rusty Smith, a member of Christian Chapel church (Eastern), won the YFA oratory contest; Nikkie Overton from Hickory Chapel church (Albemarle), won the AFC contest.

Members of the Bible bowl team from Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church (Central) won the YFA Bible bowl contest. Beaverdam church (Pee Dee) contestants placed second in the competition; Shady Grove (Cape Fear) and Westside (Eastern) tied for third.

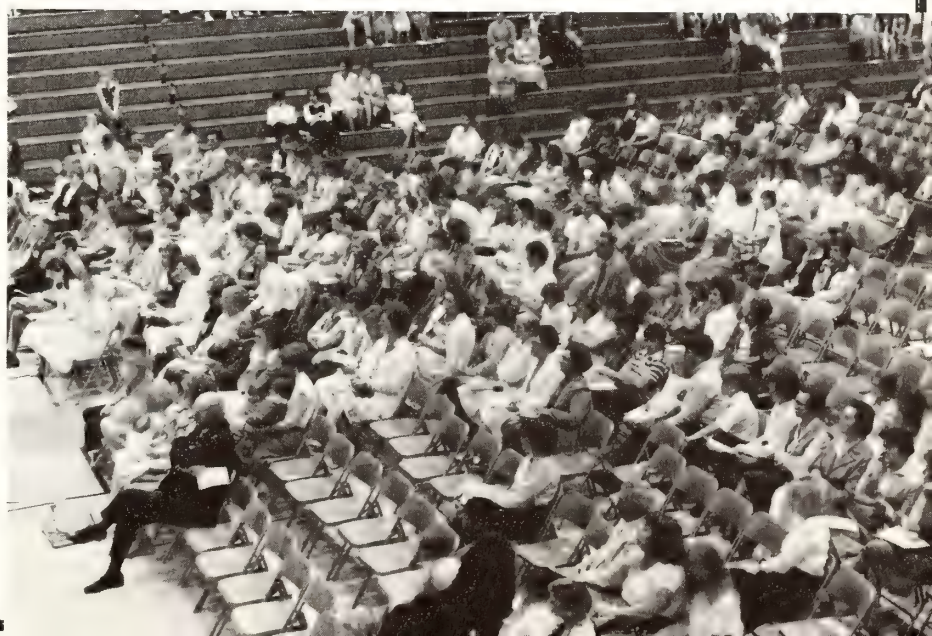
The team from Beaverdam church (Pee Dee) won the AFC contest. Winterville church (Central) placed second, and Westside (Eastern) was third.

During the business session, the young people voted to change their state project. Instead of raising money for recreational courts at Cragmont Assembly, it was agreed that all money already received for the project, and all forthcoming funds would go toward the construction of a softball field at Cragmont. (This project will be continued through the time of the 1981 State Youth Convention.) At present, the young people have raised $2,536 for the project. The Central District has raised $1,801; the Pee Dee District $400; the Cape Fear District $200; the Piedmont District $125; the Eastern District $10.

Officers of the State Youth Convention are Don Ribeiro—President, Nancy Boykin—Vice-President, Ramey Jo Dickerson—Recording Secretary. Miss Becky Jo Sumner serves as State Youth Chairman. Advisors to the Convention are the Rev. Bobby Taylor, Mr. John Byrd, and the Rev. and Mrs. Scott Sowers.

Photos by W. Reid Lovick





Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NEW CREATIONS TO TOUR PAUL PALMER CONFERENCE

The New Creations, a Christian witnessing team from Mount Olive College, will be touring the Paul Palmer Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, and presenting their musical program.

Their schedule is:

Saturday, May 16	Arrive Blakely, Georgia
Sunday, May 17	A.M. Worship Service—Jakin Free Will Baptist Church
	P.M. Worship Service—Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church
Monday, May 18	P.M. Worship Service—White Pond Free Will Baptist Church
Tuesday, May 19	P.M. Worship Service—Live Oak Free Will Baptist Church
Wednesday, May 20	P.M. Worship Service—Zion Free Will Baptist Church

Following the Paul Palmer Conference tour, the New Creations will visit Walt Disney World and Sea World in Florida. The New Creations are directed by Miss Caroline Castelloe, director of counseling at Mount Olive College.

BEING "ON TIME" WITH OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

Just as we can be "too late" in our daily appointments, so can we be "too late" in our spiritual lives. That was the theme of a recent Mount Olive College chapel message delivered by the Rev. Allan Smith, pastor of St. Delights Original Free Will Baptist Church in Kenly.

Following the message, a short memorial service was held for the slain black children of Atlanta. The Rev. Frank Harrison, College chaplain, led in the memorial service and offered a prayer for the children, their grieving families, and the person responsible for the killings.

In his sermon, Mr. Smith emphasized the importance of being on time. "When I was in high school, we had two bells for each class," he said. "The first bell was to warn you that class was about to start. The second bell was to tell you that you were too late.

"I knew the school bus came at a certain time. If I was not at the proper place at the designated time, the driver would not wait."

If one plans to attend a wedding, Mr. Smith pointed out that he needs to be on time or the door will be shut.

"We are living in a day when our lives are running on a strict schedule. We need to be careful that we arrive on time. This is just as true for our spiritual lives.

Reading from Luke's story of the rich man and Lazarus, Mr. Smith suggested that it is possible for one to be "too late" with God. "The rich man thought he had nothing to worry about. But death robbed the rich man and later he was sorry.

"It's up to you to do something about your life while you can. Don't let it be said to you—'too late!' "

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Religion Department.)

CHAPLAIN NARRON TO SPEAK AT GRADUATION



Lieutenant Colonel John B. Narron, senior installation chaplain at Griffiss Air Force Base, Rome, New York, will be the speaker at the Mount Olive College graduation ceremony on Friday, May 15, at 5:30 p.m. on the Moye Library lawn. All friends of the College are invited to attend.

A native of Wilson, North Carolina, Chaplain Narron is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He

(Continued on Page 15)

REFLECTIONS—

Sure is quiet as we approach, the water still and blue, the sun shining through the trees on a deserted campus. Except for the birds, the squirrels, the frogs and a few mosquitoes—things are calm.

BUT NOT FOR LONG—cars rolled in with blankets, pillows, frizbees, guitars, music, Bibles, tennis shoes, people—by 6 o'clock things were really buzzing—piano sounds, voices traveled, screams and yells for the missed volleyball, tingles of forks, spoons, knives—we're ready.

SOON CAME CLAPPING—good music, introductions; then choruses echoed through the trees, then silence and emotion, "His Last Days"—the lump in our throat as we watched the Wilson young people share Christ. "He's Alive"—we were blessed.

THERE WAS ROCKING—gum popping, games to get to know each other—**THEN**—Why are we here? To learn more about ourselves—to search ourselves—to see if our faith is really real—questions asked—questions answered—statements made—feelings expressed. **WOW, WHAT A BEGINNING!** Later came sounds of showers, beds, giggles, talking, snoring, lights out.

MORNING ALREADY—a few grunts and groans, the clanging of ropes as the flags raise, the sounds of early morning as God's Word is read and prayer is offered. The viewing of a film—blurred at the beginning—but our eyes blurred at the end. We have been touched—or are we being DECEIVED?

THINKING TIME—no talking—we are searching—will we forget? Will we be caught? **IS OUR FAITH STRONG?**

SPLASHING IN THE WATER—boats and skis, paddles hitting the water, a scraped knee, thunder, lightning, rain, singing, games, laughter, no one alone, a ukulele, "Love Lifted Me" like you have never heard it—the Bread, the Wine, pans of water, towels, candles, a cross, prayers, invitations, commitments, tears, smiles, songs of joy.

RAIN HAS STOPPED—stars twinkle, the moon shines on us all, we felt the words, "It is good."

POPCORN POPPING—cookies and cake, balloons burst, lifesavers crack—another short night.

THE LORD'S DAY was bright and sunny as we lined up on the wall by the river—our last worship service together—what a message—our last song together—"Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love"—lunch over, cars packed, one last walk by the water, one last stop by the cross . . . .

SURE IS QUIET AGAIN—the water is still blue, the sun still shining, the birds still chirping—**BUT**—our hearts filled with new love for the new friends we've made, the joyous experiences we've shared—**CHRIST'S LOVE** is burning in our hearts stronger than ever and the joy of knowing that—**OUR FAITH IS REALLY REAL**—what a feeling!

What am I but a man
Another face in the crowd
Another number to be counted
Another mouth to be fed
Another cry to be heard
I take up space
I consume selfishly
I produce no products, but pain and sorrow.
But, wait
I see a vision
I am me
I am one of a kind
I am one of God's own creations
I am a purpose
I am a channel for Him
I do bring joy, happiness and understanding
I am a child of God
And of that, I'm glad!

by a Junior and Senior Weekend Camper

GOOD-BYE, JUNIOR AND SENIOR WEEKEND and camp Vandemere. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR! Well, it's that time again! Time to send your registration fee of $5 to Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, 412 Rockledge Road, New Bern, North Carolina 28560.

Junior and Senior Weekend will be May 29-31. The theme this year—"BUILDING A BETTER YOU"—are you willing to try?

Dianne Riley, *Director*



SUNDAY, MAY 17

Scripture Reading—Psalm 100

THANKFUL HEARTS

God is pleased when His children have thankful hearts—thankful for everything, thankful for anything: "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (2 Thessalonians 5:18).

It is good to be expressively thankful: "And one of them . . . turned back . . . giving him thanks" (Luke 17:15, 16).

It is not good to be unexpressively thankful: "Were there not ten cleansed, but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God" (Luke 17:17, 18).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Cicero said, "A thankful heart is not only the greatest, but the parent of all other virtues."

MONDAY, MAY 18

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 61:1-3

WE WOULD SEE JESUS

A young minister, who was an honor graduate from a seminary, entered with zest upon his first pastorate. In his initial sermon, he preached a fiery message on social reform. The following Sunday, there was a note on the pulpit which read, "Sir, we would see Jesus!"

Failing to get the plea of the note, he continued to preach on current social matters.

Then one Sunday, he found a second note on the pulpit. It also read, "Sir, we would see Jesus!"

As the young minister went home after the service, the plea was reiterated in his mind: "Sir, we would see Jesus!"

Entering his room, he prayed, "O Lord, You know of my deep concern about the social ills and glaring inequalities which cry for redress."

God seemed to say to him, "I, too, have concern, but injustices will continue until men are changed inwardly. Preach Christ, the One who is able to change the hearts and lives of men through the miracle of regeneration."

The young minister began to preach Christ. Lives were transformed, and God's children were edified and blessed!

Later a third note was placed on the pulpit. It read, "Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord" (John 20:20).

PRAYER THOUGHT

An editorial in **Decision** *suggests to laymen, "Get your ministers excited about the gospel. Burn into them the conviction that God's power is waiting to be released. See to it that each congregation is on tiptoe from Sunday to Sunday, wondering what kind of spiritual feast is going to be set when the Bible is opened and God's Word is proclaimed!"*

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Scripture Reading—Psalm 49:6, 7

"WHAT A COCK AM I!"

The tale is told of Chanticleer, the rooster who leaped to his perch each morning in the darkness just before the dawn. He crowed lustily, and thereafter the sun came up!

Cried Chanticleer, "What a cock am I! Whenever I crow, the sun obeys my call!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How like the proud cock was the ancient, arrogant monarch Nebuchadnezzar who arrogated the glory for accomplishments: "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?" (Daniel 4:30).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

Scripture Reading—Mark 5:1-20

UNTIL . . .

Said Dr. Roland Q. Levell, "Evangelism is incomplete until the evangelized becomes an evangelist."

To each one of God's children comes the command, "Go . . . and tell . . . how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee" (Mark 5:19).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Lord, lay some soul upon my heart,
And love that soul through me,
And may I nobly do my part
To win that soul for Thee.

THURSDAY, MAY 21

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 11:1-10

"I BELIEVE IN GOD"

Dr. Ralph T. Overman, director of the Bi-State Regional Medical Program, St. Louis, testified, "I believe in God. I believe He is a personal being with attributes that make Him as real and experienceable as any human being with whom I

have come in contact. It is this faith in Him that gives ultimate meaning to my life. I must also demonstrate that the dynamic of my drive comes from the only real source of values and meaning—my relationship with God through Jesus Christ."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us and run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith . . ." (Hebrews 12:1, 2).

FRIDAY, MAY 22

Scripture Reading—John 13:31-35

ITS SOCIETY-CHANGING POWER

Said Bishop Moule, "Christianity never flattered the oppressed, nor inflamed them. It told impartial truth to them and to the rich and to the poor. It laid the law of duty on the slave and his master. It bade the slave consider his obligations rather than his rights. It sowed the seed of salutary and ever-developing reforms."

Wherever the gospel has been proclaimed and received, ancient wrongs have been righted.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Nature forms us, sin deforms us, school informs us, but only Christ transforms us.

SATURDAY, MAY 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 57

"WHAT A GREAT SAVIOUR!"

Two men heard Charles Spurgeon preach. As they left the service, one exclaimed, "What a great orator is Spurgeon!"

The other man said thoughtfully, "What a great Saviour Spurgeon has!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How great is His mercy! There is nothing little about God. He forgives great sins to great sinners after great lengths of time; gives great favors and great privileges and raises us up to great enjoyments in the great Heaven of the great God.

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

News from

Foreign Missions

submitted by Joe Ingram

JODI TO GRADUATE



Jodi Link

Jodi Link, daughter of our missionaries, Vance and Mattie Lou Link, will be graduating from high school on May 28, 1981. Jodi transferred into the Lighthouse Christian Academy (a ministry of the Lighthouse Free Will Baptist Church, Eagle Pass, Texas) in November, 1979. She will be the first academy graduate.

Jodi loves music and has always been active in the field. She serves as the academy pianist. In 1980, at the West Texas State Convention of Accelerated Christian Education, she won first place medals in her piano entry and in her flute entry. Also, she won second place in her voice entry. She participated in the National Accelerated Christian Education Convention in Tennessee in June.

In April, 1981, at the National Accelerated Christian Education Convention, Jodi won three first place gold medals. These were in the flute, the dramatic monologue and in the short story entries. Jodi has always been interested in drama, and her dramatic tendencies are very helpful in teaching Bible stories.

Her favorite pastime, other than playing the piano or flute, and singing, is reading. Jodi has been accepted at Pensacola Christian College in Pensacola, Florida. She is looking forward to attending this school in the fall. Jodi has a 96 average and will probably major in the field of education.

SYMPTOMS OF A SICK SAINT

The lack of Revival among God's people is a MAJOR problem that is receiving MINOR consideration.

It is time the sleeping folk WAKE UP.

It is time the lukewarm FIRE UP.

It is time the discouraged CHEER UP.

It is time the dishonest CONFESS UP.

It is time the depressed LOOK UP.

It is time the gossipers SHUT UP.

It is time the God robbers PAY UP.

It is time the offended MAKE UP.

It is time the soldiers STAND UP.

It is time the crooked STRAIGHTEN UP.

Then we will be prepared to receive revival from the Lord.

Pulpit Helps, published by AMG International, Chattanooga, TN.

CHRISTIANITY IN ACTION

THE Free Will Baptist Children's Home stands today as a memorial to the vision, dedication, labor, and faithfulness of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina for more than half a century. Since May is Children's Home Month, let's examine a brief history of this institution.

In the years 1910 through 1915, some of the leading Free Will Baptists became interested in providing a home for homeless boys and girls of our state. Men and women from various conferences and associations saw this great need. They began to advocate the building of a home to provide such care. The various conferences and associations were joined together in the formation of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists in the year 1913. It was only natural that the matter of a home for children should become the first statewide project of the newly formed State Convention.

In its second annual session, the State Convention adopted a formal resolution pledging itself to the conviction that Original Free Will Baptists should take steps to locate a place and build a home. The Convention requested its member conferences and associations to consider this matter in their fall sessions and report back to the Convention the next year. As a result of the consideration given this matter during the year and favorable reports given to the State Convention in September 1915, the Convention moved forward. A Board of Trustees was officially elected on September 15, 1915, and instructed to proceed with the project.

Although the State Convention had committed itself to building a home and had elected a Board of Trustees, the undertaking was really just beginning. There was not, at this time, any money provided or any land donated for a site. However, the newly elected Board of Trustees began their work immediately following the session of the State Convention. The first step was to select a location. Several sites throughout the state were offered and recommended. The Board visited all of the proposed sites and talked with the people of the various communities. They finally decided upon the present location which is in southern Nash County, about two miles north of the town of Middlesex. On January 1, 1916, the Board accepted a gift of fifty (50) acres of land donated by Elder B. B. Deans of Middlesex. There were one frame dwelling and several small farm outbuildings located on this site.

By early 1917, building plans were near enough completed and enough money had been given and promised that the Board felt safe in beginning actual construction of the first building. This was a large three-story building with a full basement. Progress on the first building program was very slow and somewhat discouraging because of the lack of funds. However, those who were in charge refused to give up and continued to go ahead "on faith." Their faith was rewarded when, in early 1920, it was felt the Home could soon open. The first applications for admission of children were approved February 11, 1920, and the first children, Nellie, Helen, Dorothy, and Carl Whitley, were admitted on May 23, 1920.

Following the opening of the Children's Home in 1920, it was soon realized that additional facilities were needed if the Home was to fully meet the needs of the children.

The great depression proved to be a time of severe testing for the Children's Home. Not only was it impossible to add new buildings and other needed facilities, it was most difficult even to provide the absolute necessities to keep the Home going.

In 1940, the present food service building (Central Dining Hall) was built. The decade of the 50's saw the Children's Home campus experience a real face-lifting, while the decade of the 60's saw further additions and expansions. It was during this time that the capacity of the Home was brought up to one hundred (100) children. The 70's brought changes and further building construction.

Modern medicine, the absence of war, and a decrease in family size, all affected the

numbers of children needing care in the 70's. In 1978, numbers were down and the old Albemarle building was closed. However, the Children's Home and the Retirement Homes embarked on a cooperative effort of "total stewardship" of all Free Will Baptist properties at Middlesex during 1979. As a result, Albemarle was renovated for the staff and the Dawson House (formerly called the Staff House) was renovated to house retirees.

The preceding tells a little of the building of a physical plant. However, the purchase of lands and the erection and equipping of buildings is not the main objective of the Home. These things are of value as they help to make it possible to provide better care for our children. But the real worth of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is in the lives of the children it has served. The degree of the success is measured by how well it has used its facilities to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs of the children "entrusted in its care," and its right to ask for continued support is dependent upon its commitment to constantly strive to improve its service to children.

Hundreds of boys and girls have grown into manhood and womanhood at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Today, they serve in churches, schools, colleges, farms, the marketplace and a dozen other worthwhile professions. So as you can see, the greatness of the Children's Home can not be measured by examining physical property or financial assets.

The need for Christian child care is no less today than it was in 1920. The concern is not in how many children need care, but rather in how to provide care in a manner that is pleasing to God for those whom He sends. Hungry souls and bodies long for someone who cares. They can find such a place at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

The State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists can be proud of its long heritage in the child care field. We continue to offer quality, Christian child care for more than 60 children each year. Let us continue to hold forth the hand of service to the unfortunate little ones, the misguided adolescents and lost parents through our Children's Home and its comprehensive programs of family services.

NEW STAFF MEMBER



Miss Susan Dalton and Mrs. Muriel Overman

Mrs. Muriel Overman recently resigned her position as Foster Care Family Services worker at the Children's Home to begin employment nearer her home in Goldsboro. Mrs. Overman served the Children's Home as houseparent and, then, as Family Services worker for more than three years. She was a faithful member of our staff and was indeed a friend of children.

Susan Dalton joined our staff as Foster Care worker on a part-time basis. She will assume full-time duties upon graduating from Atlantic Christian College later this month. Miss Dalton is from Suffolk, Virginia. She is very active in her local church and enjoys singing for civic and church groups. Susan brings the youth and vitality to our campus that is needed to work with youngsters and their families. Pray for her as she seeks to bring the love of our Lord to the broken lives of children and their families.

NEWS & NOTES

Pleasant Hill Church Has Easter Play



An Easter play entitled "The Power of His Resurrection" was presented April 19, at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville.

During the five-act play, the following scenes were depicted: Jesus and three disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane, the busy courtyard wherein Peter was accused of being one of Jesus' followers, Christ's trial before Pilate, the Crucifixion, and Jesus' appearance to Mary after the Resurrection.

Those taking part in the production were Jeffery Berry, Ricky Snipes, Leonard Smith, Bernice Phillips, Roger Berry, Lori Ann Berry, Nan Pierce, Danny Tilman, Becky Howell, Ray Howell, Neil Tilman, Bryan Robbins, Timmy Kivett, Cathy Lynn Berry, Michael Berry, Becky Rollins, JoAnn Baker, Andy Bunn, Charles Mitchell, Gary Bunn, Ivey Talton, Martie Wiggins, Roger Berry, Scottie Massey, Ray Massey, Peggy Kivett, Pattie Bunn, Penny Wellons, and Lisa Bunn.

Musical selections were provided by the church choir, Jan Bunn, and Phyllis Bunn; and the Rev. Don Kivett narrated production.

Pictured above is a scene from the play. Participants in the production are shown below.



Fifth Union Meeting Scheduled

The Fifth Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Core Point Free Will Baptist Church (Beaufort County), Saturday, May 30, at 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Owen Lupton will bring the morning message.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival in Progress At Spring Hope Church

Revival services are in progress through May 16 at Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, New Bern, North Carolina. The Rev. Owen Lupton of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Woodrow, New Bern, is the evangelist. Prayer room opens at 7 p.m., and services begin at 7:30 p.m. Special music is rendered each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Grady Tucker, and the church membership invite everyone to attend these services.

NOTICE

Plays, skits, puppet plays, read-aloud stories, children's church programs available. For descriptive lists and information, write Nancy Matthews, 709 Anson Street, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone (919) 237-3101 days, (919) 237-2174 nights.

News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1981
$5,517.79

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Hickory Chapel	$ 100.00
Mount Tabor	20.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
TOTAL	$ 140.00
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Bethel	$ 156.00
Catalpa Mission	25.00
Johnston Union	282.25
Victory Mission	30.55
Wooten's Chapel	62.12
TOTAL	$ 555.92
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Aspen Grove	$ 125.00
Ayden	100.00
Bethany	50.00
Black Jack	194.69
Choice Mission	34.00
Dawson's Grove	25.00
Friendship	636.00
Grimsley	2.00
Gum Swamp	25.00
Harrell's Chapel	10.00
Hugo	50.00
Hull Road	100.00
Reedy Branch	30.00
Roanoke Rapids, First	18.66
Rocky Mount, First	75.00
Rose of Sharon	100.00
Spring Branch	15.00
Sweet Gum Grove	54.50
Tarboro, First	150.00
Winterville	20.00
TOTAL	$1,814.85
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Arapahoe	$ 2.00
Bethel	100.00
Bridgeton	20.00
Core Creek	20.00
Davis	3.50
Dublin Grove	15.00
Edwards Chapel	10.00
Gray Branch	100.00
Holly Springs	370.00
Macedonia	200.00
Northeast	5.00
Pearsall Chapel	100.00
Pilgrims Rest	25.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Rock of Zion	150.00
Sandy Plain	25.00
Snow Hill	100.00
Spring Hope	10.00
Welcome Home	50.00
Whaley's Chapel	100.00
White Oak Grove	4.00
TOTAL	$1,459.50
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Barnes Hill	$ 255.00
Flood's Chapel	70.00
Free Union	201.80
Fremont	7.50
Friendship	180.00
Kenly	1.90
New Sandy Hill	100.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Piney Grove	52.00
Pleasant Hill	50.00
Sherron Acres	50.00
Spring Hill	2.00
Stancill's Chapel	2.00
St. Mary's	107.50
Unity (Durham)	4.00
Wilson, First	150.00
TOTAL	$1,258.70
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION	
District Convention	$ 8.00
Oak Grove	108.82
TOTAL	$ 188.82
PIEDMONT CONFERENCE	
East Rockingham	$ 20.00
TOTAL	20.00
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	$ 80.00
TOTAL	$ 80.00

HONORARIUMS

Given By:	Honor Of:
Bruce Steadman	Clyde Vowell Sr.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Start making plans now to attend the General Conference of Free Will Baptists to convene at the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina.

Monday, June 29, 7:30 p.m., Youth night

Tuesday, June 30, 10 a.m., Woman's Auxiliary

Tuesday, June 30, 7:30 p.m., General Conference

Wednesday, July 1, 9:30 a.m., General Conference

Margaret Ard
Woman's Auxiliary President
of General Conference

NOTICE TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION

Following the death of the Rev. Hubert Burress, our accountant made an examination of the books and records of the Association. Bank statements were reconciled with Association's records; deposit and mortgage ledgers were checked; and a trial balance was taken. Records are up-to-date and accurate.

To quote the accountant, "The Association made splendid progress under the able management of Rev. Burress. His untimely passing has left a vacant spot in many places, especially this Association."

Board of Directors of Church Finance Association, Inc.

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Piedmont Conference will meet Friday, May 22, 1981, at Community Free Will Baptist Church, Norwood, North Carolina, at 7 p.m. Anyone having business with the Ordaining Council should meet with them at this time.

McDonal Bennett, *Secretary*

Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 24

MEDIATOR OF A NEW COVENANT

Lesson Text: Hebrews 9:11-15, 24-28

Memory Verse: Hebrews 9:15

I. INTRODUCTION

In the Book of Hebrews a key word is *better*. In other lessons we have seen that Jesus is better than the angels, better than Moses, better than the priests of Old Testament times. Now we are to see Him as "the mediator of a better covenant" and a minister of "a greater and more perfect tabernacle" (Hebrews 8:2, 6; 9:11).

Hebrews 9:6, 7 calls attention to two facts of the tabernacle service. First, the priests serve every day in the Holy Place. Second, no one but the high priest enters the Most Holy Place. He enters only once a year, and always carries the blood of a sacrifice offered for his own sins and the sins of others. Our writer says this shows that the way into the Most Holy Place was not yet open. The sacrifices of that time could not really take away sins and make the worshiper perfect, but they presented a symbol of the sacrifice of Christ that would really take away sins.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today we turn from the study of Christ as our High Priest to Him as the Mediator of the New Covenant. The Old Covenant refers to the legal or Mosaic Covenant given to the Israelites through Moses at Sinai. Since we are going to be studying about the New Covenant today it is well that we stop and get a definition of the word "covenant" clearly fixed in our minds. According to E. Schuyler English in *A Companion to the New Scofield Reference Bible,* "A covenant is a declaration by God concerning His voluntarily assumed responsibility in grace toward an individual, a family, a nation, or mankind as a whole."

B. The Bible mentions several covenants that God has made with man. The exact number will vary depending on which source you are consulting. *The New Scofield Reference Bible* mentions eight. The Edenic Covenant was made with Adam and required certain responsibilities on his part. The Adamic Covenant (spoken to the serpent, to Eve, and to Adam), and the Noachic Covenant made with Noah are universal. The Abrahamic, the Mosaic, the Palestinian, and the Davidic Covenants apply to Israel primarily, with certain blessings going through Israel to the whole world. The New Covenant, which we will be studying, is made to all believers in Christ, whether Jews or Gentiles.

C. At the risk of sounding repetitious, we want to remind you again that the Book of Hebrews is addressed to the Jews who had accepted Christ, but with the passage of time were repudiating Christ and the church and were returning to Judaism. So the purpose of the discussion of the New Covenant in our lesson is to show that it is superior to the Old Covenant that God had made with Israel at Sinai. We should keep this in mind as we study today's lesson.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. A dictionary definition of a mediator is "an intermediary between persons," one who stands between two persons or groups of persons and attempts to reconcile differences between them.

B. Our sins caused differences between us and God; being holy, He cannot condone sin, neither can He look upon it with any degree of favor. That being true, all who sin—and that would include everyone—are alienated from the life of God. There is nothing in their natural and moral life to commend them to God for salvation. Outside of Christ, then, all persons are lost in their sins.

C. But Christ came to us, convicting us of our sins through the Holy Spirit, and offered His grace to us through His shed blood. He pleaded the benefits of the New Covenant—grace—and showed that we could be saved only through that Covenant. His Word made it clear that the Old Covenant—the Law—was helpless to redeem. Thus, Christ stands between sinful man and a holy God, mediating through His shed blood our differences. When we accept His mediation and trust Him for salvation, the differences between us and God are immediately resolved.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

NOTICE

The first week of the Woman's Auxiliary Conference (August 3-8) at Cragmont Assembly is filled. Any ladies desiring to attend camp should register for the second week, August 10-15.

Dola Dudley, *Registrar*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRANK WARREN

A Dedicated Free Will Baptist

submitted by Mrs. Idell Herring

On behalf of our entire church, Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Newton Grove, North Carolina, as well as all others who had the blessed privilege of sharing the beautiful life of Frank Warren (who departed this life December 20, 1980, after a long and hard bout with a malignancy); we wish to pay homage to his precious memory. As we review his life, we can truthfully say he was one of those extra special gems God chooses to sprinkle here and there. Every now and then a person emerges on the scene of life who makes the world a much better place because of their loving, sharing and caring. Frank was such a man. He didn't get to live to a ripe old age, only fifty-four (54) years, but it isn't how long we live that counts, but how well. The quality of his life entitles him to the highest of all compliments. He was truly the "salt of the earth." He was really one of today's beautiful people. He was a very handsome man, but his beauty was more than skin deep; it was soul deep. He was a public-spirited citizen, helping any way he could for the betterment of his country, especially his hometown, Newton Grove, where he made a great contribution to its well-being and continual progress. We can say of Frank, he bloomed where God planted him. He was born within a few miles of Newton Grove, one of the eight children of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. "Bob" Warren. He attended school in Newton Grove where he graduated.

World War II was in the picture at this time; Frank served at the time of surrender. He served for two (2) years in the Occupational Army in Japan in the Hiroshima area. After returning home, he married his sweetheart, Shirley Thornton, in Saint Paul church, September 18, 1948. Frank was a very



good family man as the Lord blessed him and his good wife, Shirley, with three (3) fine sons, Frankie, Jonnie, and Jeff. Frankie is married to the former Sandra Sutton. Jonnie is married to the former Carolyn Westbrook. They made Frank and Shirley the proud grandparents of three (3) fine grandsons. Jeff is still at home. Frank was very devoted and supportive of his widowed mother, "Mrs. Mary," as long as his health permitted.

Frank was a very successful businessman. He was president of Eastern Oil Company of Sampson County, and a member of Sampson County and North Carolina Oil Jobbers Association. He was engaged as farm manager for his father's estate.

Frank was a very industrious man and participated in any worthwhile cause which concerned his family, church or town. He was one of the forerunners of the Rescue Squad in Newton Grove, helped get it established and supported it in any way possible. He was a certified emergency technician even before we had a rescue squad. He was Newton Grove's first Fire Chief, serving for approximately eighteen (18) years. Frank served along with Mayor Albert Herring and others on the Newton Grove Centennial Committee in 1978. He was chairman of the Weeks Park Commission. Frank also served on the Town Board for two (2) terms and was Mayor Pro tem for one term.

Frank was an avid sports fan and endeared himself to all the ball fans who have been involved with Hobbton High School from its very first game 'til he became disabled in the fall of 1979. He was one of the first members of the Boosters Club. He filmed all the home games. He was all heart. He loved people, God, sports; and having a great sense of humor, just bubbled with life.

Frank was most of all a dedicated, devoted Christian. Saint Paul church was his special love. He had been bundled up as a new baby and taken there by his devoted parents, and it was always Frank's church. He was married there and his last memorial was there (with an overflowing crowd of friends and loved ones, who will

Turn the Page

remember the golden deeds and love and faithful service he so generously contributed to it all his years). He served as deacon. He was treasurer for many years, until his failing health caused him to retire. He was class president until the last. He was chosen and honored as "Father of the Year" in 1972. Our Fellowship Hall is a remaining monument to his last intense efforts. He was chairman of the building committee and spent many tedious hours helping it become a reality. We appreciated his work and honored him with a "Frank Warren Night."

His entire life was one continuous "Labor of Love." Through it all we recall his humility and his compassion for everyone. He was a peacemaker; he often smoothed out rough times. He truly let his light shine. The beautiful life he lived among us is now as an eternal flame, still shining brightly before us, like a benediction which continues to inspire, challenge and bless us each day.

Frank has slipped away from us and now belongs to the ages. Oh! how we miss him. Yet we know he left us a rich legacy, not of money but of love and golden deeds. He was so extra special!

We miss him, yet we feel our loss was Heaven's gain. Surely, he was welcomed to Gloryland and received that gladsome plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant, welcome home."

Someone has beautifully said, "The best portions of a good man's life are little nameless unremembered acts of kindness and love." But we do remember so very many of Frank's good deeds, and will for a long time. Thank God for our friend, loved one and brother in Christ, Frank Warren. Memory is a gift of God that death cannot destroy. Thanks be to God for our memories of Frank Warren.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

(Genesis 1:31)

by Taylor Hill

I suppose the thing I want most of all in this world is to be happy all the time. However, it seems that the ingredient for continuous happiness is overlooked by most people throughout the world. I have come to the place that I believe happiness and beauty are closely woven together. It seems obvious to me that the most cheerful people I meet are those who have a keen sense and appreciation for all the beautiful things around them, whether they are made by the hands of man or the hands of God.

Some people seem never to cease to be amazed at the beautiful world in which they live and are always so very quick to be complimentary. I am persuaded that some of my happiest moments have been when I have been able to blot out all the ugliness from my mind and concentrate solely upon all the beautiful things around me; but I must admit I have to look for them. I never have to look very far; in fact, I can usually see something beautiful and fascinating without even moving from where I'm sitting or standing. It might be found in a small potted plant, a bird perched on a bush outside the window, or the picture of a loved one hanging on the wall.

There are many other forms of beauty also; such as, the sound of music, the beautiful white clouds against the dark blue sky, the stars at night, and the smile of a compassionate and understanding friend. When beauty captures our attention, even for a moment, it seems never to fail to create a twinkle in the eye and a distinguishable expression of pleasure and approval upon our faces, even during moments of pain.

The more I look for beauty, the more I find it. There is something else that I have observed: It seems to me that beauty in its fullest sense must be spoken as well as seen. The spoken word seems to bring it to life. A person might be driving by some beautiful scenery and never notice it unless someone else brings it to his attention.

I have overlooked many beautiful things during my lifetime until someone else brought them to my attention; so, when we look upon beauty, it always seems to stimulate our sense of joy and happiness.

I am persuaded that God is beautiful in that there is beauty in everything that He has made. Once we have become keenly aware of the beauty of life and learn to express our appreciation for it, then I believe we will find ourselves joining hands with God in doing our part in helping others to find the beauty of living.

I sincerely believe and am persuaded that the people who hate ugliness and do these things along with turning to Jesus Christ for the soul's salvation, are the happiest people in all the world and also help to make the world a more beautiful place in which to live.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. DeWitt T. Cleve Jr. is a member of the Eastern Conference and is available for full-time pastoral work or revivals immediately. He may be contacted at Box 1406, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557; phone, 726-7742.

Trent Free Will Baptist Church, Merritt, (Pamlico)

County), is in need of a pastor. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Robert Williams. Mr. Williams can be reached by writing Box 11, Merritt, North Carolina 28556, or by phoning (919) 745-3779.

Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Wilson, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. If interested contact Mr. Lloyd Wiggs; phone, 237-6248 (home) or 291-1390 (business).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 4)

was ordained a Free Will Baptist minister in 1950 and is presently a member of the Central Conference. Before he entered the Air Force in May of 1957, he pastored numerous churches in eastern North Carolina, including Kinston, Howell Swamp, Sweet Gum Grove, and Rose of Sharon.

He is married to the former Marie Hester of Bladenboro, North Carolina; Chaplain and Mrs. Narron have three children. Their youngest daughter, Ruth Marie, is a sophomore at Mount Olive College and graduates this year.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden on Sunday, May 17, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. N. D. Beaman.

May is Children's Home Month

NOTICE! LOOK!

The 1981 North Carolina State League Convention passed a resolution:

Since a knowledge of the Bible is vital in this life and the Bible Sword Drill is an effective way of learning it, the State League Convention has opened its doors to any church's youth group that wishes to participate in the State Sword Drill. The registration fee is $10 per church. You may have a junior (age 9-11), and an intermediate (age 12-15) contestant to participate. Winners of the drill will receive an expense-paid trip to Cragmont. Runners-up will receive half of an expense-paid trip.

Upon request, I will mail you a copy of the 1982 drill to be held at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, North Carolina, Saturday, March 13, 1982.

If a church needs a program for their youth on Wednesday night while the adults are having Bible study, I suggest the Free Will Baptist League. It is to train leaders; therefore, those young pianists, song leaders, and speakers will have the opportunity to perform with and before each other. Three or four dedicated adults could carry this on. The traditional time for leagues is on Sunday evening and this is fine. May God bless us!

Margaret Ard
State Sword Drill Leader

Coming Events

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

May 13—The Alumni of the Free Will Baptist Seminary and Eureka College will meet at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, West Third Street, Ayden, North Carolina; registration begins at 10 a.m.

May 14—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill (near Beulaville)

May 15—Commencement at Mount Olive College, 6 p.m., Moye Library Lawn

May 15, 16—Prayer Retreat at Camp Vandemere; the Rev. Ray Williamson, director

May 29-31—High School Junior-Senior at Camp Vandemere; Mrs. Dianne Riley, director

May 31—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

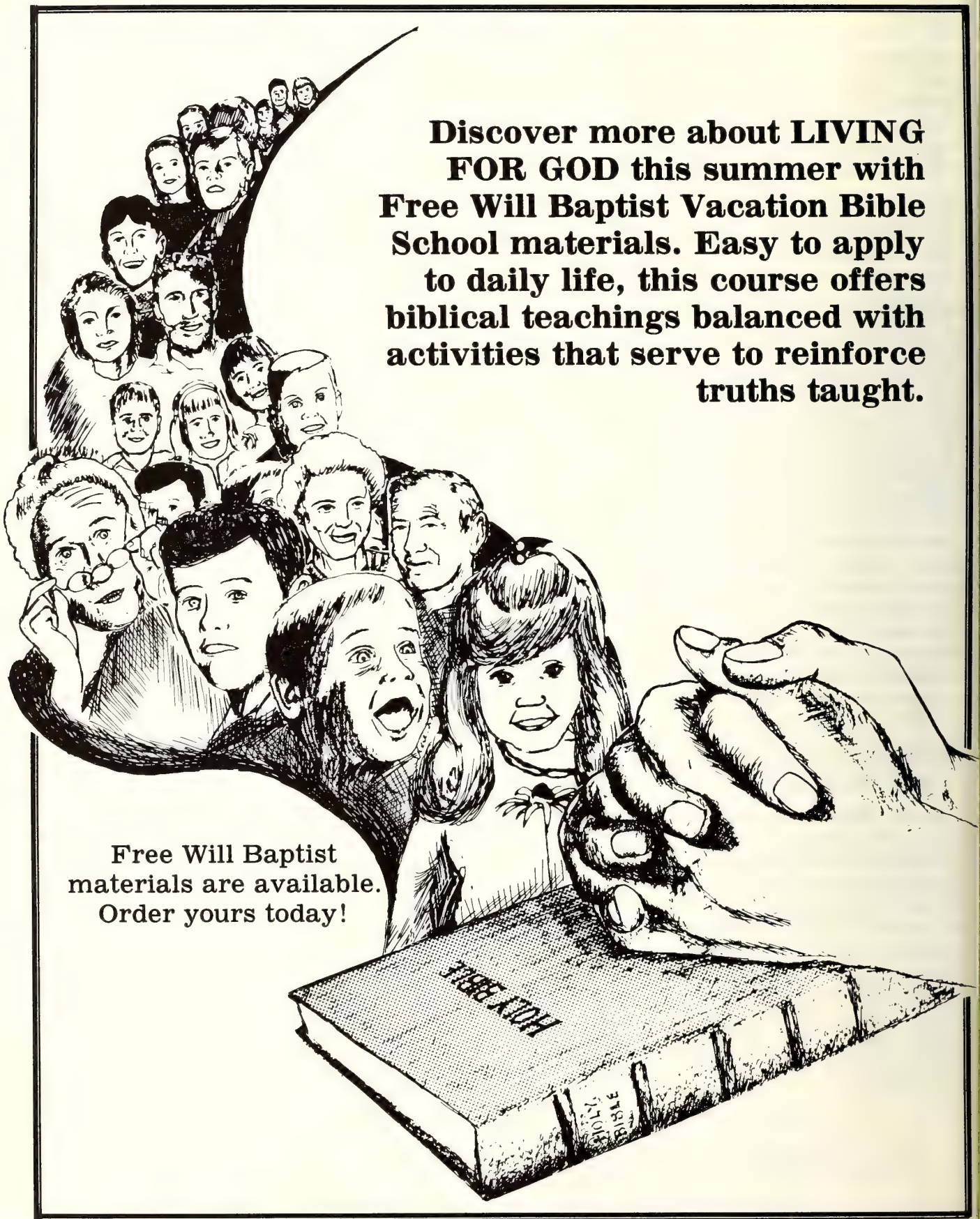
June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 4—Children's Home Board of Directors meet at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room at the Children's Home

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

Brothers and Sisters, we don't need to shove our beliefs down the throats of the young people with whom we come into contact—we need to stand up for our beliefs and live consistent Christian lives. We need to be friends and to share our Friend. It is time that our ears become sensitive to the cries of the hopeless, the helpless, the hapless (for there go you and I were it not for the grace of God)!

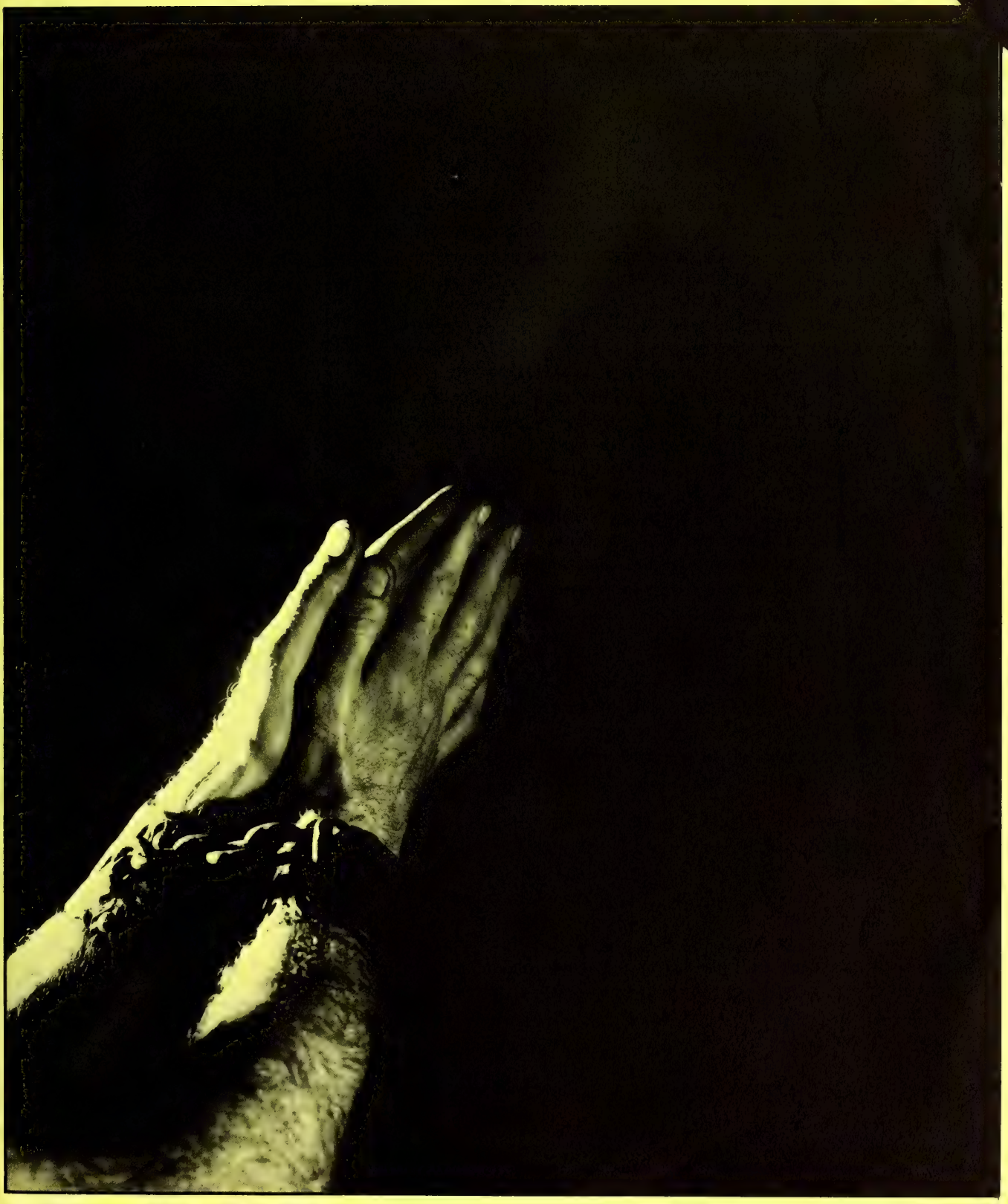

Discover more about LIVING FOR GOD this summer with Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School materials. Easy to apply to daily life, this course offers biblical teachings balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.
Free Will Baptist materials are available. Order yours today!
HOLY BIBLE

F857W

THE NEW MBF . . .

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Stay Tuned for More?

"And the beginning, as you know, is always the most important part, especially in dealing with anything young and tender. That is the time when the character is being molded and easily takes any impress one may wish to stamp on it.

"Then shall we simply allow our children to listen to any stories that anyone happens to make up, and so receive into their minds ideas often the very opposite of those we shall think they ought to have when they grow up?"

—Plato, *The Republic*

Hundreds of thousands of young people race home from school every afternoon to find a comfortable repose in front of a television. Many stay there (as if they were glued) until bedtime. Often joined after dinner by their parents, these youngsters are walking "TV guides"—they can tell you who did what to (and with) whom, and why. They know more about what happens on the silver screen that what transpires in real life. Granted, there are some television programs that are good, programs that have moral value, but they are few in number, for profanity is voiced openly; sex is seen as being for those "mature" enough to handle it. (I have to scratch my head and ask whatever happened to marriage!) "It's hard to believe that only five years ago, censors deleted the word 'virgin' from a script. One could say we've come a long way. One could also say we have gone too far."

A study recently completed by 800 researchers who monitored 778.5 hours of prime time network programming proves shocking. (Researchers represented a wide spectrum of the American populace.) There were 6.97 sex incidents recorded an hour (the term "sex incidents" refers to actual sex acts as well as suggestive sex scenes); 83.74% of all sex depicted took place outside of marriage; 85% of all programs viewed included sex and/or profanity. The use of profanity has risen 98.7% from 1978-80. The portrayal of alcohol being consumed during programming (not ads) has seen a 172.96% increase since 1978; 59.87% of all programs studied depicted persons drinking alcohol. Please keep in mind, these figures do not take into account the prevalence of sex, profanity, and alcohol as seen on soap operas.

It has been determined that violent behavior often follows incidents of violence on television. Research currently being done reveals that children do understand innuendos they are watching; they often verbalize their comprehension. Whether or not they apply their understanding to their behavior has not yet been determined. We will have to wait to see if an identifiable relationship between programs of "poor taste" viewed and real antisocial behavior exists. But think. If an advertisement can subliminally sell a product in 30 seconds, what does one hour of filth and/or violence as seen on television do to the human mind?

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 96 Number 19

May 20, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $6.76; two years, $12.48; four years, $23.92 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $6.50, $12, and $23 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Acting Editor of Literature.**

PASTORAL CALL

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

HE was a crusty old man, a master of four-letter words. His tongue was a sword, with which he could either slowly or quickly dispatch his enemies. He was full of self-hatred and he was, to all appearances, a heartless man.

I met Willie in a hospital ward. I had gone there that winter afternoon to visit another patient, the husband of one of our church members who was recovering from surgery. Willie was in a bed across the aisle in this six-bed room. I had never met him before and didn't know his name, but he was hard to ignore from the very first.

As I entered the ward he was cussing out the nurse. He was not only uncooperative, but he was also outright abusive as she tried unsuccessfully to get him to take medicine. His respiration was very labored, and he used every ounce of strength to tell her exactly where she could go and precisely what she could do with those pills.

I proceeded to the bed of the man I had come to see and began my pastoral visit, but we were constantly interrupted by Willie's outbursts at the nurses who were trying to help him. My friend said he had been this way since arriving about an hour earlier and that Willie was in the hospital because of an extremely serious heart condition. His heaving chest and the fire in his eyes indicated to all in the ward that he wasn't far from a cardiac arrest. At least that is what we feared.

Wondering if I might help to calm Willie down, I excused myself from my friend's bedside, crossed the aisle, and stood at the foot of his bed as he continued to cuss out a second nurse who had appeared on the scene.

Willie lit into me as a target for his anger. He called me "Doctor." I said: "I'm not a doctor. I'm a minister."

Well, if there was anyone that Willie hated more than doctors, it was ministers. He began slashing away at me.

As the nurses beat a tactical retreat from the ward, Willie told me in great detail just what my fate would be if he only had the strength to get up from his bed. I listened and prayed silently for Willie. It was clear that his serious heart problems were of more than one kind. He was eaten up by bitterness.

After several more minutes of verbal missiles, Willie was exhausted and simply had no more breath left to continue his attack. His eyes were a mixture of hatred, determination, fear, and panic. I deliberately moved to the side of his bed and silently looked into his eyes.

After several minutes of this unspoken truce, I reached out and put my hand on his. To my surprise he didn't pull away. I became aware of a message that I was to deliver to Willie. It seemed like a risky message, but I thought the Holy Spirit was leading me to tell him. So I said it. I looked him in the eye and I said: "Willie, you are forgiven. It's OK. You are forgiven."

It was an unforgettable and indescribable moment. There was a pause, as Willie looked at me and I looked at him. He said: "How did you know? How could you possibly know?" His hand was firmer in mine.

I confessed, "Willie, I don't know, but there is One who knows everything about you, and this One wants you to know that all is forgiven."

Silence came over us again, but this time it was like the silence of some holy place, full of power. We were not alone, and we were both in awe of that moment. As I continued to hold Willie's hand I could see his tenseness take its leave and color return to his pale face, and his breathing become easy and steady.

The nurses returned. He was the picture of cooperation and politeness. Willie didn't say much, but he allowed them to do their work and even thanked them. They were amazed, as I was, at his change of attitude. I remained at his bedside. We didn't talk. We were just there together.

The time came when I needed to leave. I asked Willie if I could offer a prayer. He nodded his head. It was a prayer of thanksgiving and supplication for God's continuing presence and help in our lives. I took out one of my cards and gave it to Willie, telling him I would be back the next day to visit, but if he wanted me at any time, just to have the nurse telephone and I would return immediately. We said good-bye, and I left to have dinner with my family.

Both Willie and I encountered the Spirit of Jesus Christ in a powerful and life-changing way that winter afternoon. Like Zacchaeus on the street in Jericho, Willie and I were out on a limb and watched Jesus

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work the wonder miracle of forgiveness in our lives. We came down and received Jesus joyfully. And our ways of doing things were changed.

I hadn't finished my dinner at home when the phone rang. It was the charge nurse saying that Willie had requested that I return to the hospital to see him. I thought his death must be imminent. So I rushed back to his bedside.

As I entered the ward I saw that Willie had company. He was sitting up in bed, breathing normally and without oxygen support, and when he saw me coming he broke out into a big smile and stuck out his hand. Willie introduced me to his son and daughter-in-law. He said that they hadn't spoken to one another in years because of the bitterness between them. But he had called them up and asked them to come to the hospital.

It was apparent that they had enjoyed some moments of reconciliation before I had entered. Willie said that he wanted them to meet me and that he wanted to hear something about a God who would forgive someone like him. We celebrated the experience of forgiveness. And we talked briefly about the God of mercy and loving-kindness. It was a rejoicing in the reality we had already experienced. And it was wonderful.

As I left for an evening meeting at the church, I said good-bye. We had another prayer together, and I told Willie I would see him the next day. But that was not to be. I received a call from Willie's son the next morning. He had died an hour or so earlier. His son told me that his father had been an entirely different person than he had known before. He had stayed with his father through the night, and they had had the opportunity to express love for one another.

There are others who need to know the reality of God's forgiveness in their lives, who need to put their self-hatred aside and accept forgiveness, and who can have their lives and their relationships transformed by the power of the God of love. They need to hear the word of forgiveness and climb down from their own particular limb and receive Jesus joyfully and take Him home with them.

Perhaps we are those who should speak the word of forgiveness. Or perhaps we are those who should receive such a word and let it enter our hearts. We have no need to continue in pain, resentment, bitterness, or despair. We can know the peace of God that passes all understanding. Because we are forgiven.

(Used by permission, **Pulpit Digest,** P. O. Box 5199, Jackson, Mississippi 39216.)

A RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

For the Reverend John Hubert Burress

Whereas, the Reverend John Hubert Burress was in the twelfth year of service on the Board of Directors of the Church Finance Association, Inc., at the time of his death; and

Whereas, because of his faithfulness and dedication to the Association his untimely passing was a great loss; and

Whereas, his expertise in this area of our work along with his understanding and abilities in financial matters will be greatly missed; and

Whereas, he will be missed by Board members and membership alike;

Therefore, we the Board of Directors of the Church Finance Association express our deepest appreciation for his faithful service; further,

We express our sincere thanks for the phenomenal progress the Association made under his very able leadership; further,

We express to his wife, Madelyn, and to his children, Carolyn and Stephen, our sincere heartfelt sympathy.

This done by the Board of Directors of the Church Finance Association, Inc., in regular session May 1, 1981.

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

SINGING GROUP VISITS JOHNSTON UNION



Dorothy, Angie, Lois, the Rev. Mike Scott, Ann and Donna

Miss Brickhouse and the children in one of the choir groups attended the Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield on March 22, 1981. The Rev. Mike Scott welcomed the group. They sang in the morning service and a report was given from the Home. This group is available to visit in your church. Contact Miss Brickhouse at 235-2161 and make an appointment today!

FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICES

Annual Founder's Day services will be held on the campus of the Children's Home, on Saturday, May 23, 1981, at 10:30 a.m. The services will be held in Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church located on the campus. The Rev. Bruce Steadman, pastor of the church and Campus Chaplain, will be in charge of the services. The Rev. James Billy Hardee, pastor of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church in the Pee Dee Conference and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home, will be the featured speaker. There will be special singing by the children and staff.

At noon a picnic lunch will be served on the campus. The Children's Home will provide barbecue, slaw, stew, potatoes, bread and tea. You are encouraged to bring desserts or some other favorite dish to supplement the meal.

Receive a generous offering and bring a large group from your church and spend the day with us. The campus is beautiful in the Spring and you will enjoy touring the campus and cottages.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP

There will be a meeting of all the ministers of the Central Conference on May 25, 1981, at 11 a.m., at The Three Steers Restaurant in Greenville, North Carolina. The purpose of this meeting is to enjoy good Christian fellowship and sharing. We believe very strongly that these meetings are worthwhile for every one of our pastors. By sharing in this time of fellowship, we become more united for the cause of Christ in the Free Will Baptist Church and learn much in the form of helpful hints from our fellow pastors.

We will continue our study of parliamentary procedure in this meeting, so we ask that you bring a copy of the **Statement of Faith and Discipline** and **Robert's Rules of Order.**

Royce L. Reynolds, *Secretary*

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE ORDAINING COUNCIL TO MEET

The Cape Fear Conference Ordaining Council will meet on Monday afternoon, May 25, at 1 p.m., at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield. Any persons having business with the council are asked to be present at this meeting.

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE MINISTERS TO MEET

The Cape Fear Conference Ministerial Association will meet on Monday morning, May 25, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield. The meeting will convene at 10 a.m.

All ministers of the Cape Fear Conference are encouraged to join this time of fellowship. Any minister who would like to attend is invited to do so.

May is Children's Home Month

NEW MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND

submitted by Walter Reynolds

The first informational meeting on the new Mutual Benevolent Fund (MBF) was held on May 4, 1981, at Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, for the churches in the Central Conference. The meeting was termed by those in attendance as being very informative. The following information was shared.

MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND

I. INFORMATION

The Superannuation Board announced in March 1981 a medical benefit and hospital income program that would be made available to all Free Will Baptist people. We are here today to learn in detail more about this program.

For the past twenty years, the Superannuation Board has sought to provide a group hospital insurance program for our ministers. However, for many reasons our groups have been small and of a high-risk nature, making our premiums expensive. This concerned the Board, and after many efforts at improving the hospital program, we became aware of the possibility of a MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND program. With the help of the Rev. David C. Hansley, Saul's Insurance Agency, and the Rev. Herbert Carter of the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist denomination (who have had such a program for ten years), the Superannuation Board put together the MUTUAL BENEVOLENT FUND for Original Free Will Baptists.

Inflationary medical expenses concern all of us. Even though God can and does heal, sickness is a problem that most Christians face. Sometimes when medical services are needed it imposes a serious hardship upon the family affected. We recognize the obligation of the Church to care for its own.

First, let me make it clear that the MBF does not affect the other phases of the Superannuation program. The Ministerial Retirement System, the Cancer plans, the Life Insurance, and the Ministers' Widows' Fund are all still available to our ministers.

A benevolent fund is a fund provided to assist those in need. A mutual benevolent fund is a fund in which those providing the funds mutually share in those funds. The MBF for Original Free Will Baptists, then, is a fund in which those contributing to the Fund constitute the membership and share in the benefits according to the certificate issued.

The MBF is not an insurance contract, even though the benefits will be similar to insurance benefits. Because this is a MBF and not an insurance program, it is not under the regulations of the North Carolina Insurance Commission. Thus, the Superannuation Board has set forth Articles of Administration for the MBF and prepared certificates to be issued to those who participate in the Fund.

I will give you some general information on the MBF and then you will probably have some other questions that you want answered.

1. Who can qualify for membership in this MBF? Anyone is eligible for membership who is under the influence of, or is a member of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, or any of its departments, and is recommended for membership to this Fund by a minister of the Convention in good standing, or a proper representative. (As long as one member of the family is under influence of the Church, all may qualify.)

2. What is the purpose of the MBF? The purpose is to provide hospital and medical benefits for its members through the hospital benefit and income plans.

3. What is the hospital benefit program? There are three certificates available in the hospital program.

(A) SUPERIOR OPTION PLAN

(1) Full semi-private room 70 Days.
(2) Normal hospital extras—Up to 100% of $1,500.
(3) Surgery—100% of $1,500.

(4) Anesthesia Allowance—10% of Surgery.
(5) Maternity—treated as any other illness—Maximum Benefit of $1,200—Husband and Wife must be under family plan for ten (10) months.
(6) Outpatient—80% of $1,000
Accident treated within 72 hrs. of accident (Usual and customary charges).
(7) Doctor visits in Hospital—$15 per day, 1st day; $10 per day, 2nd day; $5 per day thereafter up to 68 days.
(8) Children covered to age 20. Students covered to age 26 if in an accredited school.
(9) Rates—one person to age 65—$42 mo.; one-parent family to age 65—$78.95 mo.; family—$98.95 mo.
(10) Pre-existing conditions not covered 1st year; 50% of plan payable 2nd year for pre-existing conditions; 100% of plan payable 3rd year for pre-existing conditions. No sickness covered first 30 days.
(11) Major Medical—Each member covered for 80% of first $5,000 per individual, 100% thereafter up to $250,000, **lifetime maximum.**
(12) Death Benefit—Primary Certificate holder covered $5,000. Death benefits to age 65.

(B) The High Option 110
(1) Full semi-private room, 70 days—not to exceed $110 per day.
(2) Normal hospital extras—up to 100% of $1,500.
(3) Surgery—100% of $1,500.
(4) Anesthesia allowance—10% of surgery.
(5) Maternity—treated as any other illness—maximum benefit $1,200. Husband and wife must be under family plan for ten (10) months.
(6) Outpatient—80% of $1,000.
Accident treated within 72 hrs. of accident (Usual and customary charges).
(7) Doctor visits in hospital—$10 per day, 1st 10 days; $5 per day for 60 days.
(8) Children covered to age 20, or students covered to age 26 if in an accredited school.
(9) Rates—one person to age 65, $36 mo.; one-parent family to age 65, $67 mo.; family, $87 mo.
(10) Pre-existing conditions not covered 1st year; 50% of plan payable 2nd year for pre-existing conditions; 100% of plan payable 3rd year for pre-existing conditions. No sickness covered first 30 days.
(11) Major medical: 80% of $250,000 **lifetime maximum.**
(12) Life insurance: $5,000 death and dismemberment on primary insured.

(C) The Low Option 80
(1) Full semi-private room 70 days—not to exceed $80 per day.
(2) Normal hospital extras—up to 80% of $1,200.
(3) Surgery—80% of $1,200.
(4) Anesthesia allowance—10% of surgery.
(5) Maternity—treated as any other illness—maximum benefit $1,000. Husband and wife must be under family plan for ten (10) months.
(6) Outpatient—80% of $800.
Accident treated within 72 hrs. of accident (Usual and customary charges).
(7) Doctor visits in hospital—$10 per day, 1st 10 days; $5 per day for 60 days.
(8) Children covered to age 20, or students covered to age 26 if in an accredited school.
(9) Rates—one person to age 65, $31 mo.; one-parent family to age 65, $62 mo.; family, $82 mo.
(10) Pre-existing conditions same as High Option 110.
(11) Major medical same as High Option 110.
(12) Life insurance same as High Option 110.

NOTE: If you are presently covered by hospital insurance, individually or in a group, the MBF will cover you for pre-existing conditions in the amount called for in your present policy for the 2-year period that the pre-existing conditions apply in the MBF certificate. It will be necessary for you to send your

present policy and I.D. card with your application so your coverage for pre-existing conditions can be determined. The Major Medical and Life Insurance portion of the MBF has been re-insured with a strong reputable commercial insurance company.

4. What is the hospital income program? There are two certificates available in the hospital income program.

(A) The Option Plan No. 200

(1) Pays each individual $200 per week, or $28.60 per day, when confined to a hospital.

(2) Pays up to one full year as long as you are confined to a hospital.

(3) Pays in addition to any hospital plan you carry. No prorating with other policies.

(4) Pays for each day you are in the hospital.

(5) The same exclusions apply to the hospital income plan as apply to the hospital benefit plan.

(B) The Option Plan No. 400

(1) Pays each individual $400 per week, or $57.15 per day, when confined to a hospital.

(2) Pays up to one full year as long as you are confined to a hospital.

(3) Pays in addition to any hospital plan you carry. No prorating with other policies.

(4) Pays for each day you are in the hospital.

(5) The same exclusions apply to the hospital income plan as apply to the hospital benefit plan.

II. DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. Other hospital insurance, plan, or aid:

What if I go to a government or state hospital, am I covered? The MBF makes no provisions if your expenses are paid by such an agency.

What if I have other hospital insurance or other plans, am I covered? If you have any other hospital insurance plan(s), you must let them pay benefits for which you are covered by them **FIRST.** Then, on any remaining balance due on hospital and doctor's bills, we apply the benefits provided in the certificate.

What if I receive help from Medicaid, cancer fund, vocational rehab, or other aid? You are among the fortunate, by receiving benefits without having to pay commercial insurance premiums. In such cases your Fund cannot pay any benefits offered under any plans.

2. When members go to hospital:

If I plan to go to the hospital, what shall I do to have my hospital bill paid? If possible, read your certificate again. Compare your situation with benefits of the certificate. Note semi-private room rate allowed. Is condition pre-existing? Do I have other hospital insurance that will pay benefits first? Take your I.D. card and certificate with you to the hospital; hospital personnel can help you determine your coverage.

Is there anything further I need to do in order to have my claims paid? In most cases, upon dismissal from the hospital, your claim for both hospital and doctor's expenses will be sent by the hospital to the Fund. The Fund then will send to the member a simple claim form with a self-addressed envelope. Be sure and complete every line of the form under Part A, sign the form, and return to the Fund. Most claims are processed immediately. Medical records are requested, when the Fund's Consulting Physician needs to review the case.

What if I am enrolled in the Hospital income plan only? If you are enrolled in either Hospital Income Plan No. 200 or No. 400, you should ask the Hospital to send us a copy of the hospital bill, as we need evidence you have been in the hospital. If more convenient, you may send us a copy of the Hospital bill.

3. Enrollment—effective date:

How can I enroll in this MBF? Contact your pastor or a coordinator appointed by your pastor. You will be required to complete a simple Enrollment Card. Upon approval, it is sent to the Fund.

What day of the month are the certificates effective? All certificates are issued effective the first day of the month. If the Fund receives the Enroll-

ment Card by the 15th of the month, the Certificate will be effective for that month. If received after the 15th, it will be effective for the next month. You may specify a future date.

When are payments due? You must include the first month's contribution with your Enrollment Card. Thereafter, all payments are due on the 1st day of the month. It is recommended that you pay quarterly, or once or twice per year for convenience.

If payments are not received on time, do I have any grace period? Yes, you have a one-month grace period; however, this is in case of a delay due to any emergency. Don't risk letting your coverage expire due to late payment.

III. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MBF

The Superannuation Board was aware that it did not have the facilities or personnel to administer such a program, thus we secured the services of the Saul's Insurance Agency of Goldsboro, North Carolina, to administer the program. There is a contractual agreement between Saul's Insurance Agency and the Board of Superannuation setting forth how they will administer the Fund. They will promote, collect the contributions, and receive and pay all hospital and medical claims.

IV. THE SURPLUS FOR THE MBF

A continuing reserve in the amount of three months' contributions will be maintained. After the reserve has been established, and all administrative and operating expenses have been paid, if there is a surplus, it has been agreed on by the Executive Committee of the State Convention and the Board of Superannuation to divide this on a percentage basis between the State Convention programs.

V. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Superannuation Board will need your prayers and cooperation if we are to be successful in this undertaking. We ask that each one present take the information and share it with others in your church, and wherever interest is evident, and help them to enroll in the program.

AREA MEETINGS PLANNED

The Board of Superannuation of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists invites you to attend a meeting about the new Mutual Benevolent Fund (MBF). The MBF, a program adopted by the Board of Superannuation and endorsed by the Executive Committee of the State Convention, is being made available to all Free Will Baptist people. Thus we are urging every pastor (and someone from the local church who is willing to coordinate the program) to be present.

The schedule of meetings is as follows:

Tuesday, May 26, 7:30 p.m.	Micro church (Western)
Monday, June 1, 7:30 p.m.	Sandy Plain church (Eastern, Third Union)
Tuesday, June 2, 7:30 p.m.	First church, Smithfield (Cape Fear)
Thursday, June 4, 7:30 p.m.	Macedonia church (Eastern, Fifth Union)
Monday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.	Beaufort mission (Eastern, Carteret Union)

MBF
Box 10369
Goldsboro, NC 27532

I am interested in this program. Please send me more information.

Name_____ No. in Family _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church You Attend _____

(Name)

—MAIL TODAY—

NEWS & NOTES

WESTERN DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION HAS MEETING



Pastors in attendance

The Western District Sunday School Convention met with Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson on March 28, 1981. The Rev. Charles Renfrow gave devotions, noting the important role that the Sunday school has on the lives of the young people. He noted the Western Conference had the largest increase in youth attendance over the past year than any other conference.



Officers elected and chosen

The Convention is now making new plans to improve its program and asks prayers and support from all churches, pastors, and Sunday school superintendents in the Western District. New officers were elected and installed as follows: President, Sam Johnson; vice president, Hugh Howell; secretary, Mrs. Sam Johnson; treasurer, Durwood Jones; field representatives, Floyd Newsome, Jonas Hinton, Franklin Lane, L. H. Boykin.

Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference to Meet

The Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference will meet with Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in Wilmington on Saturday, May 30, at 10 a.m. The directions to the church are as follows: When traveling South on Highway 117, turn at the first red light on North Kerr Avenue. The church is approximately ¼ mile on the left. The Rev. Ronald Savage and the people of Trinity church extend a cordial invitation for everyone to attend.

Second Union of Western Conference to Meet

The Second Union Meeting of the Western Conference will meet with Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson County, on Saturday, May 30, 1981, at 7 p.m. The moderator, the Rev. Robert Langley, and the host church cordially invite everyone to attend.

Cape Fear Union Meeting To Meet

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at Yelverton Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, North Carolina, on Saturday, May 30, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. Mike Scott
—Welcome, Mr. Person Daughtry

—Response, Mr. C. Nelson Stewart
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. C. M. Coates
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch

Moderator, the Rev. L. B. Woodall Jr.
Secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley

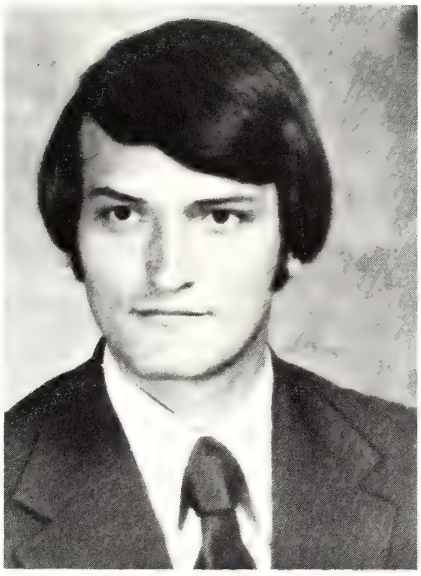
Fourth Union Central Conference to Meet

The Fourth Union of the Central Conference will meet at Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church, Saratoga, North Carolina, on May 31, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "In the Old Time Way"
—Welcome, Mr. Billy Brice
—Response, Mrs. Judy Moore
11:15—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Mission Report
11:30—Special Music, Otter's Creek Church
—Sermon, the Rev. Jack Yates

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:15—Hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven"
—Devotion, Dilda's Grove Church
—Musical Program, Local Church
—Committee Reports
2:15—Adjournment of Today's Business

The Rev. Marvin Waters Assumes New Pastorate



The Rev. Marvin R. Waters

The Rev. Marvin R. Waters, a native of Plymouth, assumed the pastorate of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church of New Bern on Sunday, May 17. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Waters Sr. of Plymouth, Mr. Waters is a graduate of Mount Olive College and received a B.A. in Religion and Philosophy from Atlantic Christian College and an M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from East Carolina University.

Active in all phases of the work of the denomination, he is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Foreign Mission Board of the State Convention, serves as Vice President of the Sunday School Convention and as a member of the Advisory Committee for Four-Year Curriculum at Mount Olive College.

He formerly pastored Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church of Pinetown and while in the Beaufort County area served as a member of the Beaufort County Association for the Mentally Retarded and as Director of the Beaufort County Hospital Chaplain's Association. Held in high esteem by area ministers, he is a Past President of the Beaufort County Ministerial Association.

The recipient of the Jordan Citizenship Award while at Mount Olive College, he was named as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America" (Jaycees of America Award) in 1977.

Mrs. Waters is the former Peggy Stocks of Washington and is a public school teacher. The couple have moved to New Bern and are residing in the church parsonage at 300 Fleet Street.

W. H. Lancaster Memorial Day Planned



The Rev. W. H. Lancaster

The Cape Fear Union Meeting to be held May 30, 1981, at Yelverton Grove Free Will Baptist Church, has been designated "W. H. Lancaster Memorial Day."

Mr. Lancaster served the following churches during his lifetime: Johnston Union—26 years; Riverside—15 years; Everett Chapel—15 years; Pleasant Grove—14 years; Powhatan—12 years; Lee's Chapel—12 years; Stoney Creek—11 years; Saint John—9

Turn the Page

years; First Church, Smithfield—6 years; Daly's Chapel (LaGrange)—4 years; Tee's Chapel—3 years; Lanwood Chapel—3 years; Branch Chapel—2 years; Prospect—2 years; and Robert's Grove—2 years. He ministered in the Cape Fear Conference for almost fifty years.

A ministerial scholarship fund was established in his memory at Mount Olive College when he died in 1970. Since this is the 100th anniversary of his birth, the Conference has elected to ask the churches and individuals whose lives his ministry has touched to contribute to this fund at the Union Meeting.

Contributions for the fund can be taken to the meeting or mailed in. Individuals who wish to send gifts to the fund at other times are asked to mark their contributions for the "W. H. Lancaster Memorial Fund." All checks, including those sent or carried to the Union Meeting, should be made payable to Mount Olive College.

Sound View Church
To Have Revival Services

Sound View Free Will Baptist Church announces its spring revival, May 18-22, 1981. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Roland Cherry from Crab Point church. There will be special music each evening. The pastor of Sound View church is the Rev. Francis Garner. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Sound View church is located 10 miles west of Morehead City on Highway 24.

Albemarle Union Meeting and League Convention to Meet

The Albemarle Union Meeting will meet with Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Creswell, North Carolina, on May 30, 1981. The Albemarle League Convention will meet in the evening on May 30, at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Roper, North Carolina. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

Opening Session

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. L. E. Ambrose
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. David Ricks
—Response, the Rev. Robert May
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

Business Session

10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Press, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

Morning Worship

11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, the Rev. David Thick
—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION

7:30—Devotion, Miss Jayne Jones
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Saints Delight Church

Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden, North Carolina, announces revival services, June 15 through June 19. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Frank Flowers, pastor of Little Creek church, is the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. James Warren, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Mother's Day at
Reedy Branch Church

Mother's Day at Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, is always very special. This year six children were dedicated by the Rev. Willis Wilson. They were Brad and Ben Joyner, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Rick Joyner; Jay Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Davenport; Kimberly Bowen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bowen; Joseph Sutton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sutton; and Christan Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Evans. Each child received a certificate of dedication.

There were six special mothers also honored: the mother with the most children

(Continued on Page 15)

OAK GROVE CONGREGATION HAS BUSY DAY

submitted by James B. Hardee



The congregation of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, North Carolina, sponsored a Shad and Roe Dinner, Chicken Bag, and Yard Sale, Saturday, April 18, at the Oak Grove Community Building. All proceeds went to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex, North Carolina.



The day began at 10 a.m. with women from the surrounding community browsing through the various items donated for the yard sale. As their mothers searched for special bargains, the younger girls enjoyed their day by "dressing up" in discarded high heels, pocketbooks, hats, various dresses and gowns. Beginning at 11 a.m. the men of the community relieved their wives of cooking for one day as they showed their skills in turning out a delicious dinner. The activities for the day continued until 6 p.m., Saturday evening.

This day was an experience for everyone involved. It was an expression of compassion and sacrifice on the part of a congregation in its willingness to pull together for the benefit of God's work. This sacrifice was deeply rewarded when the total contribution in the amount of $900 was realized for the day.



The pastor of Oak Grove church, the Rev. James B. Hardee, expresses his thanks to each person who volunteered his time, his effort, his contributions and any material item donated for sale. As Chairman of the Board at the Children's Home, the needs of the Children's Home are very close to his heart.



The response Saturday, not only of money but also of love, proves that when people forget about themselves and reach out in the name of Jesus to help others, God will richly bless the cause and each individual involved.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 31

PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH

Lesson Text: Hebrews 12:1-13
Memory Verse: Hebrews 12:1, 2

I. INTRODUCTION

Faith is the background of this lesson. In Hebrews 10 we are urged to "hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering" (v. 23). The chapter ends with this optimistic estimate: "We are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (v. 39).

Faith is believing, but it is more than believing. It is belief that brings results. Hebrews 11 is a chapter full of examples. By faith Abel made an excellent sacrifice. By faith Enoch was translated. By faith Noah built the ark. By faith Abraham left home for a country unknown. By faith Moses chose affliction with God's people rather than the pleasures of sin.

"Time would fail," our writer says, to tell of all the great men and women of faith; but their faith had results. They "subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong," and all this they did through faith.

So what shall we do if we have faith? Our text gives a partial answer. **– Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

In Hebrews 11, sometimes called the "Roll Call of the Faithful," the writer gave us the definition of faith. In Chapter 12, he begins by telling us that we walk in this world with a great cloud of witnesses, and that Christ is our example. Then he follows this with a parenthetical paragraph where he speaks of the chastisement of the Father. Our previous lessons have exalted Jesus Christ by showing His superiority in many areas, and in this lesson He is shown as the Perfecter of our faith. One of the ways that the Lord perfects our faith is through chastisement. **– The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Once again the writer of the Hebrews is making a comparison of the better things of grace with those of the Old Covenant. In Chapter 11 he gives us a list of some faithful men and women of the Old Testament who lived, of course under the Old Covenant. These faithful persons believed in God, followed Him, and suffered for their faith in God. Many died for their faith. Now the writer is saying—in Chapter 12—that if these under the Old Covenant were so faithful, how much more should Christians be faithful under the New Covenant with its fuller revelation and better promises.

B. The subject of our lesson is "Perfecter of Our Faith." A better subject would be, "Jesus, the Perfecter of *the* Faith." It is *our* faith only as we receive it from Christ. In that sense, we recognize the need for His perfecting the faith which is in us. It is not exactly correct to say that *we* "have faith in God," if we mean by this that it is *our* faith, entirely of our own making. The Word says that "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

C. The point of this lesson is that Christ *perfects* or makes mature the faith we have received from Him. Since it has been given to us, we are the custodians of it, and have the responsibility to allow Christ to make it perfect in us. To do less than that is to leave us with an incomplete faith, thereby rendering us inept and, at best, nominal Christians.

– The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

BUILDING A BETTER YOU!

The theme for the 1981 Junior-Senior Weekend planned for May 29-31 at Camp Vandemere is "Building a Better You—Socially, Emotionally, Intellectually, Physically, and Spiritually." This retreat is open to high school juniors and seniors as well as college-age students who are interested in an intellectually stimulating, fun-filled, highly active, spontaneous, emotional, and spiritually packed weekend. There will be films, games, sailing, skiing, swimming, seminars, concerts, talent shows, discussions, and worship services. Activities will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, and will continue through lunch on Sunday. The cost of the retreat is $21.50 per person.

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley is directing the retreat. She will be assisted by Craig and Jackie Simmons, Vernon and Linda McCoy, Doug Skinner, and Randy Baker.

Those interested in attending should send their $5 registration fee to Dianne Riley. Her address is 412 Rockledge Road, New Bern, North Carolina 28560.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

As Christians, we should not let our lives be controlled by the television, for surely we have work to do. We do not have to watch offensive and off-color programs, for our sets do have an "off" and "on" button. As church leaders, we can provide activities that will be spiritually edifying for those around us. Young people are a valuable resource and they should be about the work of the church—they do not need to "stay tuned!" Instead of viewing programs of little or no value, families can spend time sharing with one another. Who knows, a great deal of good could come from all of this!

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



ALLEN RECEIVES MINISTERIAL AWARD

Jerry A. Allen of Mount Olive received the Ministerial Award at the 1981 Awards Day ceremony at Mount Olive College.

Presented to a student with sophomore standing, the award is given to an individual who is preparing for the ministry in the Free Will Baptist Church. Selection of the recipient is made by the faculty in the Mount Olive College religion department based on academic performance, ability to relate to others, and potential for effective ministry.

Jerry is currently pastor of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County. He has received the "Personality of the South" award and has been invited to join Phi Theta Kappa honorary society at Mount Olive College.

The Ministerial Award is provided by the Ministerial Association of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT MOUNT ZION CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, on Sunday, May 24, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Charlie Overton.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 12)

present, Mrs. Lena McLawhorn; the oldest mother who was 88 years old, Mrs. Ella May; the youngest mother, Mrs. Sandra Bowen; and the mother with the youngest child, Mrs. Bonnie Evans. Two mothers were honored who have been members of the church for the longest time which was 69 years, Mrs. Lillie McLawhorn and Mrs. Lena McLawhorn. Mrs. Betty Merrill was honored for being the shortest mother, 4 foot 7¾ inches. Each was remembered with a red carnation.

Allen Moye sang a special Mother's Day song written by Annette Braxton. The Rev. Henry Melvin had asked her to write this special song when he was pastor of the church. She dedicated it to the memory of Mr. Melvin.

Indian Springs Church To Have Homecoming

Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Seven Springs, North Carolina, will observe its homecoming on May 24. A former pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, will bring the morning message. The children from the Children's Home will have a song service during the morning worship service. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. followed by singing in the afternoon.

The afternoon service will begin at 2 p.m. with a short devotional service by the Rev. Wesley Price, which will be followed by singing by the Indian Springs Church Choir, Indian Springs Church Trio, Maxie Garner and the Thornton family, Pat and Valerie Wood, and the Hall Sisters.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Grady Davis.

Revival Services to Be At Sidney Church

Revival services will begin May 25 and will continue through May 29, at Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Belhaven, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. David Charles Hansley will be the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, and the congregation extend to everyone an invitation to attend these services.

There will be special singing each evening.

Graduation: A New Start

Compiled by Robert G. Flood



Graduation is a special time for high school seniors, a time when they are searching for answers to life's toughest questions—

Which job field shall I enter?
Which girl or fellow is the right one for me?
What will a college campus be like?
Where does God fit into all of this?

This book, especially written for graduating seniors, offers insights into finding the answers to these questions and also focuses in on many areas of concern. It's all straight talk with realistic answers. Contemporary Christian leaders have contributed chapters on subjects ranging from campus life and Christian service careers to the real America and the greatness of God.

The twenty chapters are short and easy to digest. Beautiful color photographs are scattered throughout the book. The final chapter is a resource chapter containing information on Christian campus organizations and a select list of goods and services especially for the college-bound.

This beautiful gift volume sells for only $5.95.

Order from
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

MAY 29 1981



INSTITUTION OF THE MONTH

Time Out!

This is not an editorial in the accepted sense of the word. Instead, I'd like to extend greetings, say "Thank you," answer some questions, and seek your help. (Someone has said, "If you want something done, call on Free Will Baptists; they always get the job done!")

I have served as Acting Editor since August 20, 1980. Needless to say, the last nine months have truly been a learning experience; they have been challenging and rewarding. (And I must admit, at times frustrating.) I have had to face the reality that no one is perfect, for try as we might, commas sometimes "turn up" in the wrong place, words are misspelled, messages are transmitted wrong . . . but that doesn't stop us; we keep on trying!

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST has enjoyed a long history; it has served our people well. Some changes have been made in the publication—changes we hope make it more attractive, meaningful, and useful to you, our readers. You have been very kind to me, and for this, I am quite thankful. (You will never know how much I appreciate your encouragement.)

As Acting Editor, it is my responsibility to approve and edit manuscripts. With the help of a very capable staff in the Editorial Department, this task is made much simpler. As far as THE FREE WILL BAPTIST goes, changes often have to be made in grammar; adjustments are sometimes called for in length. But changes are not made that would alter the essence of material submitted.

Now, let's consider some questions often asked.

Does it cost anything to have items printed in THE FREE WILL BAPTIST? When is your deadline? There is no charge for printing articles in the paper. All items to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the Acting Editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue. THE FREE WILL BAPTIST is printed four times a month. (No paper is printed on the last Wednesday of any month having five Wednesdays.)

We do our best to run material as it comes in, but certain items such as important church meetings, convention programs, and the like, take priority over materials that can just as easily be run a week or so later. Feature articles may be held for quite some time. (Items already on file play a great part in the scheduling of new features.

Why is THE FREE WILL BAPTIST printed on one type of paper one week, and another the next? The paper is usually run on 50 lb. (woven offset) stock, which works well on our presses. This particular stock helps us maintain desired quality. Issues with a colored picture on the front cover (4-color work) are done on a coated stock. Even though this paper is more expensive, it is used because it yields a more vivid picture.

Why does my paper come late sometimes? THE FREE WILL BAPTIST is supposed to be mailed on Tuesday, for a Wednesday or Thursday delivery. (At times, problems beyond our control do occur and mailing is delayed.) If you do not receive your paper as you feel you should, check your name and address to see it they are correct. (If they are not, be sure

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Cover Photo by Sam Lane

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May 27, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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OUR TOMORROW, OUR CHURCHES

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

"The bulwark of religious training is vital if the line is to be held against the forces of corruption, crime and disloyalty. I believe that men imbued with spiritual values do not betray their country. I believe that children reared in homes in which morality is taught and lived rarely become delinquents."

—J. Edgar Hoover

"IN homes where morality is **taught** and **lived,**" lie all our tomorrows. Unless the family remains strong and responsive in the world there will be no tomorrow for any of us.

"The greatest thing we as individuals can do for ourselves and our country will be to keep our families together in peace and happiness. **There is no better way of doing our part for the homelife of America than by establishing the daily practice of family prayer in our home; because families that pray together stay together."**

—J. Edgar Hoover

One wonders if that old cliche, ". . . the family that prays together stays together" is still valid in our time. It seems church families are falling apart, too. Some are, but if one examines the statistics, he finds that Christian families are many times more likely to weather the storms of life than non-Christian families.

Preparing for our children's future is preparation for our own future. Our lives are so wrapped up in what our children become. We want them to be successful, to be happy, to be self-sufficient, to be Christians. By enabling our children to reach their highest potential, we not only help them, but we have the personal satisfaction of knowing we fulfilled God's will for our lives. There's nothing that makes parents happier than to see their children succeed.

How can parents be reasonably sure their children will succeed? First, parents need to exemplify a spirit-filled life. If our children are to believe that there are answers to life's problems, they must have parents who come to terms with life's problems. Second, if our children are going to have good marriages, they must see one in action. Statistics indicate that children from broken homes tend to have broken homes of their own. Third, parents must provide discipline. Frequently children write to Ann Landers asking why their parents won't provide some structure for their lives. Children **want** and **need** structure. Children ought not to have to ask their parents to discipline them. Neither should parents feel bad when they provide discipline and structure for their children. One thing is for certain, if our children are to be a joy to us and pleasing to God, they must lead disciplined lives. "But my child resists being disciplined. My child doesn't want limits." Neither do most adults, but this world would be a terrible mess if we didn't have some structure and limits imposed on us.

The lad sitting on the barbecue grill and thousands like him are placed in child care programs not so much because of their problems, but because of parents who cannot or will not face life's responsibilities. Most children in care today have both parents living. Their parents' marriage failed and for the most part they have failed as individuals at work and in the community, also. Their children have learned well this pattern of failure. Lack of personal discipline is a primary factor in family dissolution.

The Scriptures tell us that the Lord chastens those He loves. If the rule is good enough for God why is it not good enough for us humans? If we have a future, if we have a tomorrow, it will be because we respond as adults, as parents, to God's love and discipline for our lives. If our children have a tomorrow, it will be because we provide positive, Christian guidance for our children.

Turn the Page

It may be selfish, but I want my children to grow up so I can be proud of them. I want them to be good citizens, to have a good marriage, good families, and, most of all, to have God. In order for them to make me proud I must not fail them **now.**

Thousands of children do not have parents who care enough to live disciplined lives. For them their only hope may be a foster home, or a children's home. Our Children's Home has given more than 750 orphaned, dependent, neglected and abused children an opportunity for a Christian home. There will be hundreds of others in the years to come. The lad on the grill has a future. Because of him, our church has a ministry, a reason to strive onward, a reason to reach out and keep on reaching out until the very last child has had an opportunity for a Christian home. Our tomorrow, indeed, is in our youth.

THE EASTERN YOUTH FRONT

I would like to thank the youth who served on the various committees at the State Youth Convention on April 25 at Lenoir Community College. Those serving were Moseley's Creek—ushers; Smith's New Home—publicity; Sandy Plain—concession stand; St. Mary's and Arapahoe—food committee. Thanks also to all the churches who donated the food, and especially to Mr. Mack who cooked the delicious chicken fillet. Special appreciation goes to two of the Eastern District Youth Officers, Todd Ard and Kelly Cauley, who helped make my job easier, and to Happy Taylor, State Ladies Auxiliary President.

Finally, I would like to say thanks to all the ladies auxiliaries of the Eastern Conference who helped finance our food expenses at the convention.

Deborah King

Attention Layman's Leagues

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Layman's League Board is attempting to determine the number of Layman's Leagues or (Men's Fellowships or Brotherhoods) which are currently active throughout the state. The purposes of the Layman's League are: (1) to further the cause of Christ throughout the world by the unity and cooperation of the men of the church, (2) to increase our knowledge of the church and her institutions and enterprises, (3) to generate a spirit of Christian fellowship, and (4) to work for the general welfare of the church.

When men stand up for Christ, things begin to happen. It is with this belief that the State Layman's League Board has begun its mission to not only determine the current status of the Layman's League, but also to foster the establishment of a Layman's League program in churches where the men are not yet organized.

The names of the men on the State Layman's League Board and their addresses are as follows:

CENTRAL CONFERENCE: J. M. Langley, 602 Sorey Avenue, Tarboro, North Carolina 27886, phone 823-2356; Rex Wainwright, Route 1, Box 130-A, Winterville, North Carolina 28590, phone 756-5032; Delano Wilson, Route 1, Box 414, Winterville, North Carolina 28590, phone 746-6629; and Henry P. Beaman, Route 1, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28590, phone 753-4263.

EASTERN CONFERENCE: Tommy Benson, Route 1, Box 193-AA, Kenansville, North Carolina 28349, phone 296-1337; and J. T. Wilson, Route 2, Box 360, Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586, phone 244-0699.

WESTERN CONFERENCE: Danny Kirby, P.O. Box 851, Fremont, North Carolina 27830, phone 242-4749; and Harry Hinson, Route 2, Box 252, Fremont, North Carolina 27830, phone 242-6245.

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE: L. Graham Creech, Box 73, Newton Grove, North Carolina 28366, phone 594-0664.

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE: Charlie Keech Jr., Route 1, Box 130, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865, phone 943-3260; Garland Jackson, P.O. Box 51, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865, phone 927-4634; and Dallas G. Foreman, Route 4, Box 736, Washington, North Carolina 27889, phone 927-4444.

The State Layman's League Board requests that **all churches** complete the form below and return it to one of the men on the board. Your help in this matter and your prayers of support will be greatly appreciated.

Name of Church _____

Address of Church _____

Conference of Church _____

Pastor of Church _____

Do you presently have an organized men's group at your church? _____

If so, what type organization? (Layman's League, Men's Fellowship, Brotherhood, other) _____

If not, would you be interested in receiving help in establishing a men's organization? _____

Comments: _____

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FREE WILL BAPTIST WA CONVENTION

submitted by Ruth Warrick

Miss Sara Willoughby, Vice President, called the 54th Session of the North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention to order at 10 a.m., May 14, at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville.

The theme for the Convention was "Redeemed for a Purpose." The Scripture text was, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit" (John 15:16).

The invocation was given by Mrs. Bobby Ackiss. The opening hymn was "Praise Him, Praise Him," led by Miss Lora Chesmore; Mrs. Melba Sumner was pianist.

Mrs. Mamie Kennedy presented the morning devotions with several object lessons. Her subject, in keeping with the theme, challenged us to "Put a little more pride in our harvest." A trio from Sandy Plain composed of Merita Baker, Lora Chesmore and Pamela Kennedy sang "May the Lord Depend on You?"

The welcome was extended by Mrs. Rena Kirk, President of the Eastern District, followed by greetings from the local president, Mrs. Julia Kennedy. Mrs. C. L. Patrick gave the response.

The State Youth Chairman, Miss Becky Jo Sumner, gave her report announcing winner of the YFA Declamation Contest as Rusty Smith, who presented his declamation. She also introduced Paula Harrove who wrote the winning essay for the AFC's.

The Rev. A. B. Bryan sang "He Is So Precious to Me," asking audience participation on the last verse. He was accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Fred Register.

Mrs. John (Happy) Taylor, President of the Convention, brought greetings to the Convention, thanking the group for their cooperation and prayers the past year. The Rev. Scott Sowers offered prayer.

The President recognized representatives of the Denominational Enterprises, State Officers, District Presidents, and Ministers.

The Minutes of the Executive Sessions of the Convention were read by Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Secretary. They were adopted. Mrs. Dola Dudley, Chairman of Literature, reported on the Revision of the Manual. Report was adopted.

Mrs. Rachel Duncan gave a beautiful tribute to Mrs. D. W. Hansley for her work with the youth of our Denomination from 1962-1980. The Convention also awarded Mrs. Hansley a plaque which the President, Mrs. Taylor, will present later to Mrs. Hansley, who was absent from the meeting.

The morning worship began with a congregational hymn, "My Savior's Love." The offering was taken. The Sandy Plain Trio rendered special music, "Because He Lives."

Mrs. Lizzie Dawson, using the theme Scripture, among several other Scriptures, brought a very inspiring message. She said, "It is high time that Christian women behaved as becometh holiness; only when our relationship is right with the Lord will we bring forth fruit."

She stated that our goal in life should be to become more like Jesus. Also among the many good things she said, she closed on the note that Jesus is coming again, which is our blessed hope.

The hymn, "Grace Greater Than Our Sin," was sung. The benediction and grace for the table was prayed by the host pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee.

Following lunch and lots of fellowship, the afternoon session was called to order by the President. The hymn sung by the congregation was "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth." The Rev. Marvin Waters offered prayer.

Mrs. Kenneth Brown presented an impressive memorial service. Mrs. Bill Taylor and Mrs. Willard Hinnant sang selections, "Ivory Palaces" and "Take My Life, Lead Me Lord." They were accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Fred Register.

Invitations for the Camp Conferences at Cragmont were extended by the Rev. Scott Sowers and Mrs. Dola Dudley. Mrs. Fred Register invited the women to the Woman's Conference at Vandemere.

Dr. W. B. Raper presented the needs of a Mount Olive College student from South Africa who plans to return to his native land to teach Christianity after graduating at Mount

(Continued on Page 14)



SUNDAY, MAY 31

Scripture Reading—Mark 6:1-32

REST AWHILE

Said Leonardo da Vinci, "Every now and then go away, have a little relaxation, for when you come back to your work your judgment will be surer. To remain constantly at work will cause you to lose power of judgment. Go some distance away, because then the work appears smaller, and more of it can be taken in at a glance, and lack of harmony and proportion is more readily seen."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Said Christ to His busy disciples, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while" (Mark 6:31).

MONDAY, JUNE 1

Scripture Reading—James 4

BECAUSE I LIVED

When morning breaks and I face the day.
This, dear Lord, is what I pray:
That when the same day fades to gray.
Some child of yours may happier be,
May find himself more close to Thee,
Because I lived this day.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Submit yourselves therefore to God . . . (James 4:7).

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:7

THE SUN IS ALWAYS DOWN

In an essay on "Why I Should Not Use Drugs," Caren Sellers, a sixteen-year-old high school student, wrote:

"Look around. I mean really look. The world is all yours. Life is so short. There is so little time to see and absorb all of the wonders that actually belong to you. These things exist for you. Absolutely nothing can replace the beauty of a freshly opened rose or the splendor of a golden sun setting on the horizon.

"Then there is another world. Here the sun is always down and there is never a chance to see it rise. It is a world that consists of pills, capsules and syringes. It is the world of drugs—a filthy, polluted world that encourages crime, hatred, and mental dangers; a world that includes constant fear and attempts to escape, but has no assurance or hope for the future. Where does it all lead to? Is this the answer to long-searched-for bliss and happiness? Is having hallucinations while lying in a gutter your lifelong ambition? It is not mine.

"Ahead of me, there is a wide, wonderful world that I am anxious to tour and study. I am not about to ruin my plans for some cheap thrill. There would be a difference if there were no choice of how to spend my first life and try for a better one the second time. But there is not a second chance! So I plan to make the best of my first!"

Limitless potentials for good are inherent in young people who, in life's morning, submissively plead:

Jesus, Saviour, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal,
Chart and compass come from Thee,
Jesus Saviour, pilot me.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us hear the conclusion o the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty o man (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:13-25

EXEMPLIFY THE TRUTH

Said Edward R. Dayton: "The church doesn't need a message that is relevant to the world. It needs Christians who are relevant to the message."

The daily lives of Christians should exemplify the changeless truths of the gospel.

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . ye should follow his steps (1 Peter 2:21).

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

Scripture Reading—Psalm 90

UNCERTAIN AND FRAGILE

During a heavy rainstorm about noon on a Sunday, a light aircraft crashed into the cold waters of Lake Travis, Austin, Texas. A father, mother and their teenage daughter in the plane sank to their death in twenty feet of water.

Death was probably a remote thought when they enplaned for the pleasurable flight on that Lord's Day.

Life is uncertain: "Thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Proverbs 27:1); and fragile: "It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little while, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14). The years glide swiftly by: "We spend our years as a tale that is told" (Psalm 90:9); "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle" (Job 7:6).

PRAYER THOUGHT

To be momentarily ready for death is consummate wisdom.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh (Matthew 24:44).

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Scripture Reading—Psalm 37

STEPPINGSTONES

A little girl climbing a mountain with her brother became weary and discouraged. She said, "This mountain is nothing but a pile of rocks!"

"But the rocks are steppingstones for us," said the brother. "They help us climb the mountain!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he should not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand (Psalm 37:23, 24).

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Scripture Reading—1 John 1

NEEDLESSLY WRETCHED

In speaking of God's willingness to forgive the sins of all who penitently come to the Saviour, Dr. James Pleitz said, "I recently visited a greatly disturbed lady in one of our hospitals. Her face showed great anguish as she said, 'For the past several nights, I have had repeatedly the same frightful dream. In it, the Saviour has appeared and said to me, "You have sinned so long and so much, you can never be forgiven." '

"I opened my Bible and read to her God's sure promise: 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness' (1 John 1:9).

"Then I asked her, 'Will you accept what the Bible says, or continue to be wretched and emotionally distressed?'

"Thoughtfully she replied, 'I will accept what the Bible says!' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

The moral and the immoral sinner both need God's forgiveness, for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

THE WAY I SEE IT—

"The Days of Yesteryear"

by C. H. Overman

Recently, I attended the Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference of North Carolina. It was the first Saturday Union Meeting that I had attended in quite some time, and it was an unusual gathering of Free Will Baptists. Why? Because of the excellent attendance and fellowship. The moderator, the Rev. John Owens, remarked that it was the largest crowd in the six years that he had been a member of that particular Union. Indeed, there was a special spiritual fellowship. You could detect it in the singing of the hymns, the prayers, and in the message delivered by the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, pastor of the host church, Piney Grove.

The meeting ended about 12:15 and the host church provided the noon meal. Then there was a time of fellowship—just talking—and all went on their ways. Reports from other denominational gatherings indicate a sort of renewed interest. It would be great to experience such a renewal throughout our denomination, wouldn't it?

You don't have to go back many years to recall large attendances at our conferences, conventions, etc. To those who were involved in them, there were special blessings. It seems there was more time back then, and therefore a more relaxed atmosphere.

Have we lost something nowadays? Maybe it's a natural result of the passing years, but should it really be this way? I know we can't recall the past, but maybe we ought to recall the blessings of the past.

As I see it, we need the fellowship found among the people of God. The larger gatherings provide such fellowship. Also, the more informed one is about the work of our denomination, the better church member he will be. We certainly need Christians in our churches who know what is going on.

Many factors, however, affect involvement today. Work habits, for example, have changed drastically. And in some cases the church in its organizational structure has failed to adjust to it. Times and days set for these gatherings have already changed in some cases and other changes surely will be necessary.

Let us never forget the purpose of it all—to fulfill the command of Christ to be bearers of the "good news." When we meet together, we become a greater part of that purpose.

The Rev. C. H. Overman is presently serving as interim pastor at First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina. He and his family reside in Ayden, North Carolina.



NEWS & NOTES

The Rev. Walter Reynolds Honored in Special Service



Mrs. Kathy Baucom and the Rev. Walter Reynolds.

On Sunday, May 29, the members of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina, honored their pastor, the Rev. Walter Reynolds, with a special Pastor Appreciation Day service.

Mr. Reynolds is in his fourteenth year of devoted service to the church and community; he began serving Friendship church in August, 1967. A faithful and understanding servant, he ministers to the spiritual needs of his members during times of sickness and sorrow. His messages always prove to be scriptural and inspirational.

The day was declared Pastor Appreciation Day by the Young Woman's Auxiliary, the Woman's Auxiliary, and the church membership, as a way to show their love and appreciation to their pastor and his family. Mr. Harvey Cobb, the speaker for the day, presented Mr. Reynolds with a check; while Mrs. Kathy Baucom, president of the Young Woman's Auxiliary presented him with a plaque and Mrs. Gladys Oakley gave him a wristwatch, on behalf of the Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. Reynolds was remembered with a necklace and a cross-stitch picture.

Dinner followed the morning service.

A native of Columbia, North Carolina, Mr. Reynolds graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, and presently serves as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. He is married to the former Evelyn Furlough of Creswell, North Carolina. They have three children, Sammy, Judy, and Steve; and five grandchildren.

Young Adult Sunday School Class Sponsored Supper

The Young Adult Sunday School Class of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, North Carolina, recently entertained the two adult Sunday school classes with a supper in the educational-fellowship hall.

The building was decorated with spring flowers on the tables.

Eugene Glower, class president, welcomed everyone after which the Rev. Paul Grubbs, pastor of the church, asked the blessing. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal.

Judy Strickland was in charge of giving out door prizes.

After the meal, everyone enjoyed a slide presentation given by Mr. Grubbs.

Approximately 50 people attended and enjoyed this Saturday night of Christian fellowship.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, May 30, 1981, with Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Johnston County. The host pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, and the union extend a cordial welcome to everyone. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will preach the union message.

Shiloh Church Has Layman's League Sunday



Mr. Paul Beaman and Mr. Clark Peele

On Sunday, April 12, 1981, Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, had Layman's League Sunday.

The day was highlighted when Mr. Paul Beaman of the State Layman's League Executive Board presented Mr. Clark Peele, vice president of the Layman's League, a charter. What a day it was for praising the Lord for some working laymen!

Special Mother's Day Service at Pleasant Hill Church

A special Mother's Day service was held May 10, at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, North Carolina.

The Rev. Don Kivett, pastor, welcomed everyone to the service, especially the mothers. After Phyllis Bunn sang "He Touched Me," Mr. Kivett spoke briefly about godly mothers and their influence on the lives of others. His remarks were based on Proverbs 31:10.

Mothers aged 50 years old and older were then remembered by their children

and husbands with roses. The younger mothers present were recognized in like manner. The women present who were married but not mothers, as well as those who were mothers-to-be, also received roses.

Mrs. Bettie R. Bunn closed this touching service with prayer.

Central Conference Laymen to Meet

The Layman's League of the Central Conference will hold its quarterly meeting on Monday, June 1, at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, North Carolina. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m.

It is hoped that 125 men will be present at Friendship church. Layman's Leagues are asked to send as many representatives as possible. Churches without men's groups are also invited to attend.

Churches in the Central Conference are asked to find out how many of their men (and families) will attend a pig-picking planned for June 13 at Eagles Nest. This information will be asked for at the June 1 meeting at Friendship church.

Pleasant Hill Church Gets Baptistry



The recent installation of a new baptistry in Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County, marked another step in the progress of this church under the leadership of Pastor C. F. Bowen.

Pictured here is Kim Wilcox who was the first person ever baptized in Pleasant Hill church, being the first to receive Christ after the baptistry was completed. She is the daughter of Dale and Linda Wilcox, also members of the church.

Kim is one of about twenty others who have been converted and received into the church—along with ten others who have come by letter—during the past year under Pastor Bowen's ministry.

The beautiful new baptistry was a gift of one of the church's members who wishes to remain anonymous, but whose gift was dedicated to the glory of God and received by the congregation with heartfelt gratitude.

MBF's Hospital Income Program

The Mutual Benevolent Fund offers two certificates in the hospital income program.

(A) The Option Plan No. 200

(1) Pays each individual $200 per week, or $28.60 per day, when confined to a hospital.
(2) Pays up to one full year as long as you are confined to a hospital.
(3) Pays in addition to any hospital plan you carry. No pro-rating with other policies.
(4) Pays for each day you are in the hospital.
(5) The same exclusions apply to the hospital income plan as apply to the hospital benefit plan.
(6) Rates—one person to age 65—$9 mo.; one-parent family to age 65—$17 mo.; family—$27 mo.; husband and wife to age 65—$17 mo.; one person (ages 55-64)—$10 mo.

(B) The Option Plan No. 400

(1) Pays each individual $400 per week, or $57.15 per day, when confined to a hospital.
(2) Pays up to one full year as long as you are confined to a hospital.
(3) Pays in addition to any hospital plan you carry. No pro-rating with other policies.
(4) Pays for each day you are in the hospital.
(5) The same exclusions apply to the hospital income plan as apply to the hospital benefit plan.
(6) Rates—one person to age 65—$15 mo.; one-parent family to age 65—$30 mo.; family—$50 mo.; husband and wife to age 65—$30 mo.; one person (ages 55-64)—$17 mo.

MBF
Box 10369
Goldsboro, NC 27532

I am interested in this program. Please send me more information.

Name _____ No in Family _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church You Attend _____
(Name)

—MAIL TODAY—

DIRECTOR INGRAM VISITS THE PHILIPPINES

submitted by Fred Baker



The Rev. Joe Ingram visited the Philippines on March 19 through March 28. He came to attend the dedication of Palawan Bible Institute's buildings and facilities, the first graduation exercise of PBI, the annual National Convention, and to get an up-to-date look at the progress of the Free Will Baptist churches of the Philippines.

It was with great joy that we greeted Brother Joe at the Puerto Princesa airport on March 19. He was greeted by a welcoming committee from the churches. Several of the boys from PBI were holding welcoming signs. Three girls from PBI greeted him by placing garlands on him.

After leaving the airport, everyone proceeded to the PBI campus. A banner was hanging on the front of the new classroom building to welcome Director Ingram. Everyone enjoyed a short time of fellowship and refreshments in the new kitchen and dining area of PBI. The time of fellowship was ended by a tour of the PBI campus.



On Friday, March 21, the first graduation exercise of PBI was held. Brother Joe was the main speaker at this. He also helped cut the ceremonial ribbon at the dedication service.



Director Ingram was able to visit and speak to each church and mission while on Palawan. His messages were an encouragement to everyone.

The National Convention was held on Thursday, March 26. This met on the island of Luzon. Brother Joe preached a very inspiring sermon that evening.

Saturday afternoon on March 28, Brother Joe left the Philippines for his long flight home. Everyone is thankful for his visit and enjoyed his stay very much. From the Philippines we say, "Thank you, Director Ingram."



St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 7

HEARING GOD'S COMMANDS

Lesson Text: 2 Kings 23:1, 2; Deuteronomy 10:12—11:1

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 11:1

I. INTRODUCTION

Josiah's reform is the setting for our lesson, and the date is about 621 B.C. Somewhat earlier the king had set about to have the temple in Jerusalem repaired. In the process, the "book of the law" was found (2 Kings 22:8). When it was presented to the king, he recognized it as the Word of God. When it was read to him, he was overcome with dismay, for he knew that his people had violated what was written in the book and that they were guilty before God.

The book that was found is not described for us so far as its contents are concerned, but it is widely recognized that it included Deuteronomy. Perhaps this book is not too well known to some Christians, but it should be. It is a spiritual classic. Fortunately, we will have the entire quarter to study it and to search out for ourselves the message God may have for us in this book.

The Book of Deuteronomy embraces at least four important themes: (1) A covenant with God is central. Israel would enjoy a special relationship with God, not because of merit but because of His love and mercy. (2) Instruction in the kind of life expected of the covenant people. (3) Promises of the rewards of obedience and warnings of the disaster of disobedience. (4) Exhortations by Moses reminding his people of God's goodness and mercy to them and urging them to be faithful to the covenant. To a degree, all of these are touched on in our introductory lesson on Deuteronomy today.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The title of the Book of Deuteronomy is taken from the Greek *deutros* (second) and *nomos* (law). This is the title which the Septuagint translators gave to the book when they translated the Old Testament into the Greek language about the third century B.C. It is the second giving of the Law of Moses with explanations on how to keep the Law.

B. In *Explore the Book,* J. Sidlow Baxter points out four characteristics of the Book of Deuteronomy. First, it is a transition from the old generation who died without entering Canaan (except for Caleb and Joshua) and the new generation. Second, it deals with the passage to a new land. The Israelites were leaving the wilderness where they had wandered for almost forty years, and were going into Canaan. Third, it marks a transition to a new way of life. The people would be living in houses rather than tents, in settled habitations rather than wandering in the wilderness, and would adopt a new diet. Instead of depending on manna, they would be eating corn and honey, wine, and milk. Fourth, this book introduces a new revelation from God. Nowhere in the first four books of the Bible do we find any mention of God's love, but here we find, "And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt" (Deuteronomy 4:37).

C. While the entire Book of Deuteronomy except for the story of Moses' death is made up of his messages to the people, its structure may be characterized by two words: retrospective and prospective. The retrospective or looking backward section is composed of the first eleven chapters. The prospective or looking forward section of the book is comprised of the remaining chapters.

D. The key verse of this book is 6:23, ". . . brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers."

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. With the exception of a brief passage from 2 Kings in today's lesson, the studies for the entire quarter are based on selected Scriptures from Deuteronomy, a book written by Moses but one not too familiar to the average Christian. According to the *Uniform Series* outline used in the preparation of these lessons, Deuteronomy is "comparable in its influence with Psalms and Romans, yet a book too little known to Christians."

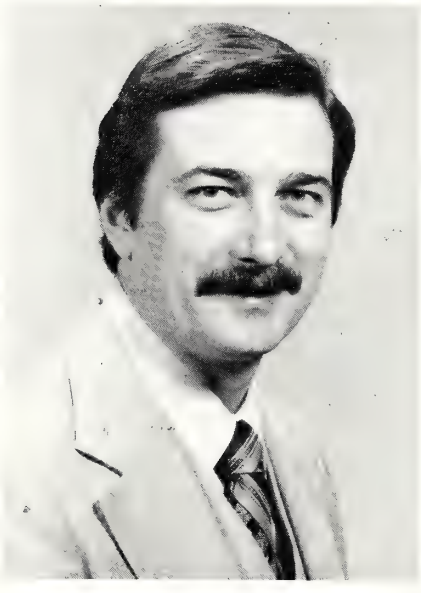
B. The word "Deuteronomy" means "Second Law," or "Repetition of the Law." During the wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness, the laws as recorded in Exodus and expanded in Leviticus and Numbers were set in motion. Just before the people entered Canaan under the leadership of Joshua, these laws were rehearsed and expounded—hence the Book of Deuteronomy—in anticipation of the new life in the Land of Promise.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

WALLACE SPEAKS AT COMMENCEMENT WORSHIP SERVICE



The Rev. Harold "Mac" Wallace

Like Jesus, Mount Olive College graduates will face some serious temptations in the coming years of their life. That is what the Rev. Harold "Mac" Wallace told candidates for graduation at the recent commencement worship service.

Mr. Wallace spoke to 118 candidates for graduation in the Rodgers Chapel on the College campus. The students included 112 candidates for the Associate in Science degree, three for the Associate in Arts degree, and three for the one-year Certificate in Business.

The speaker graduated from Mount Olive College in 1968 and later received the A.B. in Psychology and Religion from Duke University and the Master of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Mr. Wallace also has extensive training in personal and marital counseling. He is currently serving as a chaplain supervisor at the School of Pastoral Care at the North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

In Luke's account of the temptation story in Chapter 4, Jesus is tempted to turn stones into bread. "This is the temptation to be a superman," Mr. Wallace said. "It is a temptation to go beyond who you are and be more than God ever intended you to be."

This temptation is one that faces everyone. "For you students it could be the temptation to try to soar through the academic world with a single bound and get a Ph.D. without the hard work that is involved," he said.

Mr. Wallace stressed that the things in life that are worth having usually come through great effort and commitment. "Our temptation is to ignore the hard processes of planting, cultivation, and harvest. This is a temptation which will face you constantly and, like Jesus, you must ignore it."

Next, the devil took Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple and told him to jump because the angels of God would take care of Him. "This is the temptation to flaunt our power, intelligence, or wealth in an arrogant manner," he said.

"Some even try to impress others with their religiousity," Mr. Wallace said. "All through your life, you will be tempted to act like you are more than you are. You must try to turn this temptation down."

Finally, the devil told Jesus that He could have all the kingdoms of the world if He would only worship the devil. "This is the temptation to let someone else be responsible for your life," Mr. Wallace said. "There are always people, institutions, causes, and even religions that will say, 'Turn your life over to us and we will dominate your life and tell you how to think and act.'

"To bow down and be submissive to this kind of domination is not only sinful, but also very dangerous," he said. As examples of this kind of domination, he pointed to the people who followed Jim Jones and Hitler.

"To let someone else see, hear, and think for you is sinful and dangerous and I think it will become an even more pervasive temptation in the world we live in."

Mr. Wallace emphasized that salvation does not keep one from having to make hard choices about these temptations. "Rather, your salvation comes in the midst of these difficult decisions."

(The above article was written by Calvin R. Mercer Jr., a professor at Mount Olive College.)

ATTENTION WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

In the business session of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention held with St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Kenly, North Carolina, on April 1, 1981, a new slate of officers was presented by the nominating committee.

As a result, please send money to your new District Treasurer: Mrs. Nadine Crocker, Route 3, Kenly, North Carolina 27542.

Send reports to your District Secretary: Mrs. Jonas Hinton, Box 57, Micro, North Carolina 27555.

Mrs. Jonas Hinton
District Secretary

MOTEL REMODELING

For many years ministers, and ladies during he auxiliary weeks, as well as many persons luring weekend retreats have made statements uch as: "The motel rooms would be fine f there was some heat" or "if there was some- hing on those cold cement floors staying in the notel wouldn't be bad at all."

Your Cragmont Assembly Board has been ware of much needed repairs in the motel. As ou know, for the past four years our area of rimary concern has been fund raising, con- truction and debt retirement of the new guest odge. However, maintenance and repair needs or the rest of our properties must also be met. et me share with you the needs insofar as the epairs to our eight motel units are concerned.

The following estimate is submitted by Mr. rank Burke, a builder in Black Mountain, hom we have found to be reliable, to do good ork at reasonable prices in recent repairs on e new guest lodge.

Cost estimate for remodeling the motel nits:

1. Plumbing	($615.04)	$4,920.30
Plumb existing fixtures with new works and rehang bath sinks.		
2. Electrical	($259.60)	$2,076.69
Install new electric heat in bedrooms and baths with all necessary new wiring.		
3. Carpet	($200.60)	$1,604.66
Install wall-to-wall carpet in bedrooms. This is a heavy, tough commercial type carpet with jute back.		
4. Vinyl	($45.30)	$362.39
Install vinyl floor covering in baths. (This has already been donated by Little Rock church.)		
5. Bath Wall Repair	($152.00)	$1,215.97
Repair and/or replace plaster finish wall in bathrooms.		
6. Ceramic Tile	($210.25)	$1,681.76
Set 4¼" x 4½" ceramic tile in bathtub area up to the shower height.		
7. Ceiling Insulation	($122.90)	$983.05
Insulate the ceiling (not currently insulated) with 6" R-22 cellulose insulation.		
8. Access Doors to Plumbing	($4.50)	$35.61
Repair/replace access doors to bathtub plumbing.		
9. Sink Back	($18.00)	$142.42
Install sink back for plumber in the walls for more secure mounting of the labatories.		
10. Clean-up	($6.20)	$49.07
TOTAL FOR REMODELING		$13,071.92

We would like to be able to do all of the above this year. However, we also have to think about our $34,000 note payment which is due in November. The only way we can possibly do all of the above remodeling this year is for churches, Sunday school classes, auxiliaries or individuals to underwrite various portions of this work. The cost for the remodeling of one motel unit doing all of the above is $1,600 per unit. The ( ) above indicates a cost per unit breakdown on each item.

If you as individuals, groups or churches are willing to commit yourselves to any of the above projects, please understand that this is not to replace your present giving through the Cragmont Club, minister's association, auxiliary or your giving through your church budget toward the present operation and debt retirement of Cragmont. Your response to this project must be above and beyond what you are presently giving.

In the event that enough additional support is not received from our people, the Cragmont Board of Directors has voted to go ahead with the electrical heating, vinyl floor covering, and carpeting of the motel units this year. According to comments we have received from those who use the motel units this would do the most to make them more comfortable. The other items mentioned would be done as money is available.

Please contact, the Rev. John Williams, Manager, Cragmont Assembly, Inc., 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 27811, or call (704) 699-7677. We anticipate a good response from you. Pastors and lay leaders please bring this to the attention of your people.

Cragmont Board of Directors,
The Rev. Harry Grubbs, *Chairman*
The Rev. DeWayne Eakes, *Vice Chairman*
Mrs. Ruby Hancock, *Secretary*
Mr. Rick Watson, *Treasurer*
The Rev. Craig Simmons
Miss Sara Willoughby
The Rev. Gary Bailey
The Rev. Clyde Nations

Auxiliary Convention

(Continued from Page 5)

Olive. The Convention in the business session took an offering for his present needs and adopted a motion that each auxiliary send $30 to help him complete his education at Mount Olive. The money sent for Peter Tingem must be sent to the treasurer, Mrs. Raymond Sasser.

Reports of the various temporary committees were given, highlights being that the Credentials Committee noted that 237 people registered for the Convention; Resolutions, that a rising vote of thanks be given Sandy Plain and the Eastern District for their hospitality; Nominating, Mrs. Alma Dale was elected to the Cragmont stockholders, Mrs. Phillip Wood to the Christian Education Committee, and the following to the Literature Committee, with year of term expiration, Mrs. Walter Reynolds, 1982; Mrs. Alice Barrow, 1982; Mrs. Fred Register, 1983; Mrs. Ruby Hancock and Mrs. Dola Dudley, 1984.

Mrs. Raymond Sasser had the "best ever" treasurer's report, noting that the Convention had received $53,000 this fiscal year for denominational enterprises.

The following auxiliaries were recognized as A-1: Albemarle—Free Union, Sudie May Auxiliary at Hickory Chapel; Cape Fear—Goldsboro, Hopewell, Lee's Chapel, Palmer Memorial, Robert's Grove, Smithfield; Central—Daniels Chapel, J. W. Everton Auxiliary at Daniels Chapel, King's Cross Roads, Saratoga; Eastern—Arapahoe, Bridgeton, Kinston, Core Creek, Sound View; Western—Union Grove, Calvary, Trinity, Friendship (Johnston County, Holly Springs.

The president announced that the next Convention will be held May 13, 1982, at Beaverdam church in the Pee Dee District.

Mrs. Dianne Riley asked for support and prayers for Mount Olive College; she then directed the group in some choruses after which she prayed the benediction. Truly we could say as we left Sandy Plain, "It was good to have been in the house of the Lord."

Ruth L. Warrick, *Corresponding Secretary*

Second District Union Meeting And Sunday School Convention

The Second District of the Central Conference will have its Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention at First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, on Sunday, May 31, beginning at 3 p.m.

W. R. Harris, *Moderator*

WOMAN OF THE YEAR IS CHOSEN

The members of Sound View Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary elected Colleen Whaley as "Woman of the Year," at their May meeting.

Mrs. Whaley is married to Harold Whaley and they are the parents of five children: Roxie Vesper, Debra Beyers, Greg, Gary, and Tammy Whaley. They have five grandchildren.

Mrs. Whaley is a willing worker in both the auxiliary and the church, with no job too big or too small. She is now serving as program-prayer chairman of the auxiliary.

With her award, she also receives a week at Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina, in June. Congratulations to Colleen Whaley!

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

to contact us.) If they are right and your paper consistently arrives late, notify us. We will check our records and if necessary, contact postal officials.

How can I help? My answer to this query is threefold. First, help boost subscriptions. At present, we have over 3,700 subscribers (that's about ⅓ of the families that attend churches in the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists regularly). We would like for this number to exceed 4,000 by the end of the year. We can do this—we should already be doing this! If you have family members or friends who do not receive the paper, talk with them about subscribing. Your church may be interested in participating in either the EVERY FAMILY or the BUNDLE subscription plan. (For more information, write the Subscription Department of the Free Will Baptist Press.)

Second, let us know how we can better serve you. Let us know what items you particularly enjoy. If you would like to see something included, let us know; we will consider your suggestions.

Last (but certainly not least), be much in prayer for us.

With every issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, we strive to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. We are not there yet—we have many miles to go before we reach many of our goals; but your support does make a great deal of difference.

Janie

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE NEWS . . .



In 4½ weeks, YFA'ers will be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1981 Youth Frontier Conference. Youth Frontier Conference (YFA Week) is unique because it is the only youth encampment planned at Cragmont for only teenagers (ages 13 up). This encampment always proves to be a time of fun and fellowship, a time of soul-searching and inspiration. The theme for the week is "God Plus One," and this year's encampment is scheduled for June 29—July 4.

To make sure you are among those attending YFA Week, please mail the application below **soon.** (Mail no later than June 20; but don't wait, as you might be closed out.) Send the application with a $10 registration fee. Letters explaining what you need to carry to camp will be sent when your registration fee is received; bus schedules will be mailed June 22. The cost of camp is $65, plus a $10 activity fee. (This activity fee covers the expense of a trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, a tour of Christus Gardens, and the cost of a group picture.) Please make checks payable to Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week (balance due upon boarding bus—$65).

APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____

Church _____

Send application to: Scott and Janie Sowers, Directors
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

LIBRARY
DUKE UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, N. C. 27706

Graduation: A New Start

Compiled by Robert G. Flood



Graduation is a special time for high school seniors, a time when they are searching for answers to life's toughest questions—

Which job field shall I enter?
Which girl or fellow is the right one for me?
What will a college campus be like?
Where does God fit into all of this?

This book, especially written for graduating seniors, offers insights into finding the answers to these questions and also focuses in on many areas of concern. It's all straight talk with realistic answers. Contemporary Christian leaders have contributed chapters on subjects ranging from campus life and Christian service careers to the real America and the greatness of God.

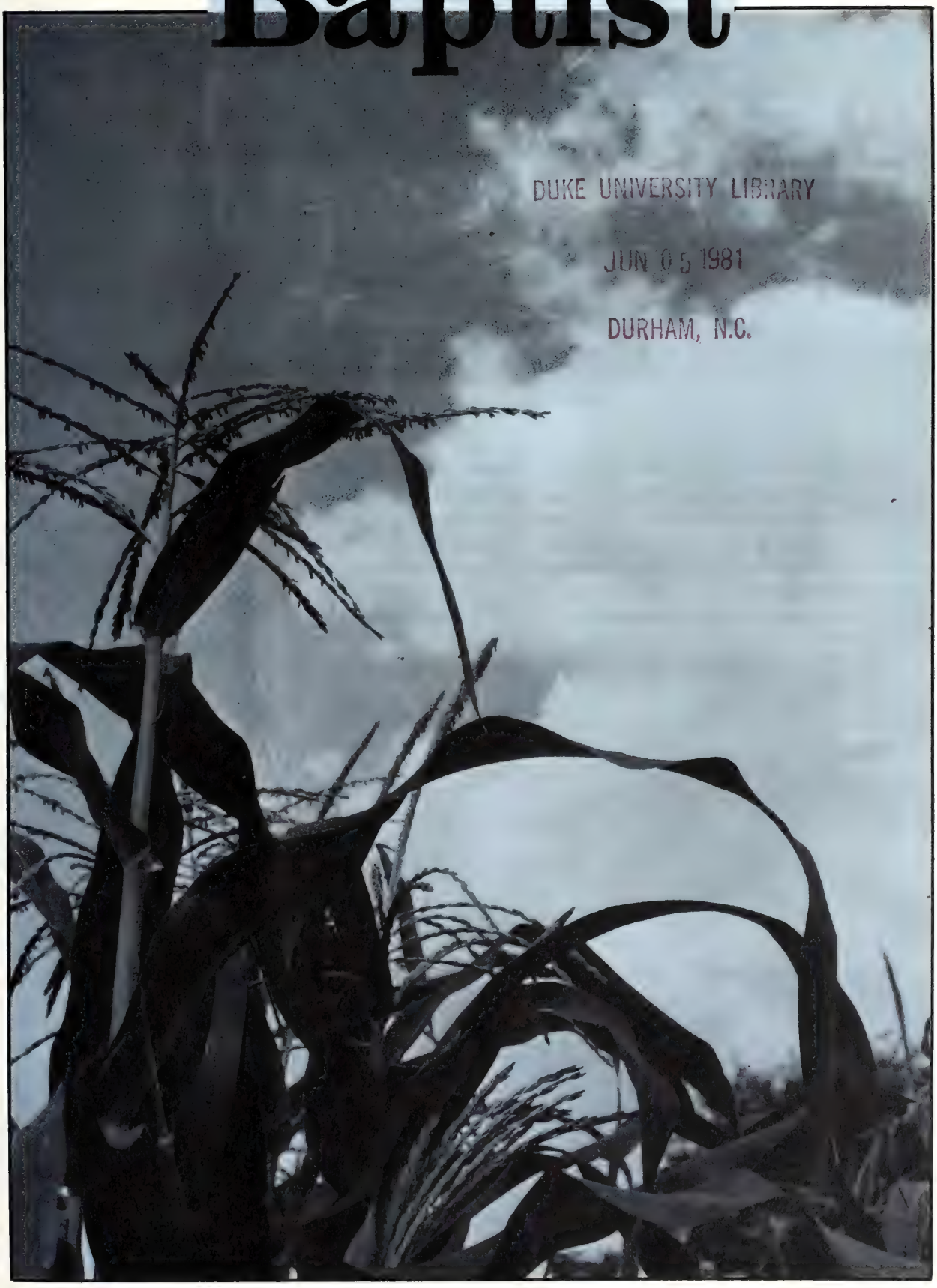
The twenty chapters are short and easy to digest. Beautiful color photographs are scattered throughout the book. The final chapter is a resource chapter containing information on Christian campus organizations and a select list of goods and services especially for the college-bound.

This beautiful gift volume sells for only $5.95.

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The Free Will Baptist



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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

Broken Hearts: Part One

Create in us a sensitivity not only for needs of the poor and oppressed in other lands, but also for those in our own neighborhoods who are in need—physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Help us to place others before ourselves and to serve instead of always being served.

We take so much for granted. Teach us to be more appreciative of all that we have; for in comparison to the hungry, we are abundantly rich.

And finally, it is our deepest desire to see the world as your blessed Son saw it; in doing so, may our hearts be broken with the things that broke His heart. Amen.

(Used by permission of *WORLD VISION)*

As little children, we were often admonished to eat everything on our plates! Whenever we did not, we were told how little children would go to bed hungry that night. Although we never quite understood the relationship between several spoonsful of potatoes, some beef fat, and half a roll left on our plates, and starving children, we listened, we felt guilty, and often became overweight. But our feelings did little to change reality.

The latest United Nations figures relate that 10,000 people die every day because of the lack of food. Five hundred million individuals out of a world population of 3,800,000,000 do not have enough food to meet their bodily needs. Nineteen out of twenty of these persons live in Third World countries. One-half of the young people living today in the Third World are inadequately fed **and** will inevitably die a premature death. Ten million boys and girls under the age of five are suffering from severe malnutrition; 82 million are victims of moderate malnutrition, and 120 million suffer milder forms. Twelve million tons of grain a year would provide food for these starving individuals—that's under 1% of the world's grain harvest.

After a newspaper editor pointed out these facts in his publication, an irate reader responded: "I say if God wanted these people to have a long and affluent life, He would have made it so. If a billion people starve to death, so much the better for the other 2 or 3 billion. Maybe then prices in civilized countries will go down." What a philosophy!

As I conclude the first part of this series, I ask that you not feel guilty; instead, consider your responsibility.

"May our hearts be broken with the things that broke His heart."

Janie

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 2

June 3, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given to the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Life in a Fish-Bowl

by DeWayne Eakes

DUE to the very nature of the minister's profession, his life and, for better or worse, the life of his family are very much in the public eye. At times ministers and their families get the feeling that they are living in a fish-bowl, that the parsonage has transparent walls.

Parsonages came about as congregations sought to assure themselves of being able to secure the calibre of resident pastor they needed for the spiritual life and health of their church. In many areas without a parsonage there would have been no rental housing available and no housing for sale. Therefore the building of a parsonage was seen as a very practical means of solving the housing problem for a resident minister and his family. There are some areas today which a parsonage may still be the best solution to the problem of securing adequate housing for the minister's family. However, more and more churches are moving toward the idea of providing a housing allowance for the minister and allowing the minister the option of securing his own housing. Parsonages can be sold outright, putting the money on interest and allowing the interest to provide the housing allowance, or by renting the parsonage and using the rental income for a housing allowance and for upkeep on the parsonage.

Why are ministers satisfied with living in a parsonage? It looks like a good deal. They don't have to pay property taxes, house payments or rent, put in new hot water heaters, new roofs, heating units or pay for painting every few years. When they move they don't have to worry about selling the house and all that that involves.

There are many valid reasons why some ministers are desiring to provide their own housing. There is a certain

Turn the Page



(Photo by Camerique)

pride of ownership and feeling of permanence, security and accomplishment by living in your own home. Also there is equity buildup to be considered. Very rarely does a home lose value. A person can double the value of an investment in a home in a ten-year period. The minister living in his own home has some important tax advantages that the minister living in a parsonage cannot enjoy. Also, the minister in his own home does not have to ask a committee to paint the house, install carpet, add a room, enclose a carport, buy a new range, or pour a patio. Both as an active church member prior to entering the ministry and as being a minister living in a parsonage for almost twelve years I have heard many comments about parsonages. I have heard many lay people making cryptic remarks such as: "It must be nice not to have to pay rent or make house payments." Or, "I wish someone would put a chain-link fence around my backyard." Or, "I wish somebody would build me a carport on my house." These remarks add no joy to the minister and his family.

Also if the minister dies where is his family to go? Can they remain in the parsonage? Not for very long. And what about retirement years? Where will the minister and his wife live when they are too old or infirm to pastor a church? My heart bleeds to see men who physically should be retired but can't because of nowhere to live. Or ministers who have given their lives to the Original Free Will Baptist Church and have to live in penury during their "golden years." Or widows who have to eke out a living as best they can when the minister dies and can no longer provide a living.

Parsonages are a "double-liability" to the minister. Every congregation counts the parsonage as a part of their support to the minister. Providing a parsonage is often a way of keeping the salary low and then there is the reality that if a man spends fifty years living in a parsonage, when he retires and moves out he has no equity and must start from zero to provide his retirement home.

Where marketability and availability will allow, I believe that a housing allowance in lieu of a parsonage is a much better option for the pastor and congregation alike. Of course most of our churches who have no already done so will need t revamp their minister's re muneration if he is to be full time and provide his own hous ing.

Salary is usually the last iten discussed between pulpit com mittees and a prospectiv pastor. Many churches realiz they should pay more but hav decided they "can't." A half-time church should b willing to pay a ministe

(Continued on Page 14)

NEW TESTAMENT EXCHANGED FOR A CHICKEN



The age-old practice of bartering is still alive in the Amazo River.

In this picture two young girls from a village deep in th Brazilian jungle offer Wilson Villanova, the American Bible Soci ty of Brazil's regional secretary, a chicken in exchange for a Po tuguese New Testament.

The launch "The Light of the Amazon" plies the 6,400 kilomete river and its tributaries distributing Scriptures to people in trib villages set in some of the most impenetrable regions of Brazil. Th boat also carries food, clothing and medicine (and occasionall medical students and nurses).

Pastor of the Week

The Rev. Ransom McAbee

Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Ransom McAbee. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

Honoring Our Pastor

submitted by Sandy Plain Youth



The Rev. and Mrs. Ransom McAbee

Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church of Pink Hill, North Carolina, is fortunate to have the Rev. Ransom McAbee, pastor, and his wife, Edna.

Mr. McAbee was born July 5, 1925, in Spartanburg, South Carolina. After high school, he attended a business college in Spartanburg; Bible College in Edneyville, North Carolina; and served his country in World War II in the European Theater from 1943 to 1946.

On May 6, 1944, he married Edna Webb, also of Spartanburg, and God blessed their marriage with four children and seven grandchildren.

In 1957, Mr. McAbee was ordained as a minister, and served as a supply pastor and pastor for several churches in Spartanburg before coming to North Carolina. In North Carolina, he has pastored White Oak Free Will Baptist Church of Bladenboro, Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church of Creswell, and has been pastor of Sandy Plain church since December, 1979.

Mr. McAbee often speaks of his wife with much admiration and pride, for she is truly a Christian example. Oftentimes he tells of how she sacrificed for their children in his absence as he went about doing God's work.

On Sunday, May 31, Sandy Plain church had Youth Sunday, with the theme being "Honor Our Pastor." It has been evident to us as members that the Rev. and Mrs. Ransom McAbee desire to honor and worship God in everything they say and do. Their lives are truly an example of giving all for the cause of Christ. In the short time that they have been with us, they have endeared themselves to our whole community, not just the membership of our church. It matters not to them whether people are of the Sandy Plain church or of any church, they are willing and eager to visit or help them in any kind of situation. What better way is there to exemplify God's love? If we, as Christians, don't love others enough to break down barriers in our everyday living as well as in times of crises, how can they ever know what God's love is all about?

We appreciate his support of all phases of the work of our church, but especially the youth program. We, the youth, say "thank you" for your patience, love, and prayers.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who remembered me on my birthday and on holidays. I would especially like to thank those who remembered me with cards and gifts during my recent stays in Pitt Memorial and Wilson Memorial Hospitals.

The Lord has been so good to me during the 57 years I have tried to serve people and churches as a Free Will Baptist minister. I pray that He will continue to bless us all.

L. B. Manning

Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**



SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Scripture Reading – Galatians 5

CALLED UNTO LIBERTY

Before America became a nation, Obadiah Holmes preached against the established church and some of its practices. For this "offense" he was publicly flogged with a three-corded whip, receiving thirty lashes!

After the shameful ordeal, he exultingly said, "The outward pain was so removed from me that I am unable to declare it to you!"

His courageous stand for religious freedom inspired others to stand for the God-given right of freedom in religious choices.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another (Galatians 5:13).

MONDAY, JUNE 8

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 1:16-20

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

As a guide conducted Charles H. Spurgeon through an art gallery, they came to the painting of a man with a benign, benevolent face. "My!" exclaimed Spurgeon. "Tenderness and graciousness beam from that face! How Christlike!"

"Come with me," said the guide, "and I will show you the reverse side of the picture."

Spurgeon stood aghast as he looked at the other side and saw the fiendish, malevolent face of one more bestial than manlike.

The purpose of the artist was obvious. He had depicted the depths of depravity and degeneracy to which one may descend who spurns the mercy of God and casts off all restraints.

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool* (Isaiah 1:18).

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

Scripture Reading – Hebrews 12:1-4

LOVE NUDGES US ONWARD

One day William F. Danforth, of the Ralston Purina Company, was climbing a steep mountain trail with his little five-year-old grandson. As they were toiling upward, he asked, "Are you tired, Jimmy?"

Jimmy quickly answered, "My feet are tired, but myself isn't!"

Jimmy was tired physically and longed to sit down and rest, but his will made his feet plod on.

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *let us run with patience the race that is set before us* (Hebrews 12:1).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

Scripture Reading – Ephesians 5

WOMAN'S PLACE

Woman was made of a rib
Out of the side of Adam,
Not out of his feet to be trampled upon,
But out of his side to be equal with him,
Under his arm to be protected,
And near his heart to be loved.

PRAYER THOUGHT

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour (Ephesians 5:2).

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

Scripture Reading – Psalm 18

HEART HUNGER

Dr. J. R. Miller said, "All human hearts hunger for tenderness. Harshness pains us. Ungentleness touches our sensitive spirits as frost touches the flowers. It stunts the growth of all lovely things. Gentleness is like a genial summer to our life. We are always right when we show gentleness."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *thy gentleness hath made me great* (Psalm 18:35).

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

Scripture Reading – Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

"IF I KNEW"

Martin Luther said, "If I knew the world would come to an end tomorrow, I'd plant my apple seed today."

The Bible says, "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap" (Ecclesiastes 11:4).

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *thou knowest not the works of God* . . . (Ecclesiastes 11:5).

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

Scripture Reading – Philippians 4

BEGGING

One day, when Sir Walter Raleigh made a request of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I, she petulantly said, "Raleigh, when will you leave off begging?"

Sir Walter replied, "When your Majesty leaves off giving!"

The Queen was greatly pleased with his reply, and his request was granted.

Thou art coming to a King
Large petitions with thee bring;
For His grace and pow'r are such,
None can ever ask too much.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God delights to bestow the best of gifts upon his children according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

Coming Events

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 5, 6—Ministers' Retreat, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 7—Cragmont Sunday in Local Churches

June 15-19—First Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 15-20—General Youth Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 21—Father's Day

June 21—Superannuation Day in Local Churches

June 22-26—Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 22-27—Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 29—July 4—Youth Frontier Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 29—July 3—Second Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

THE WAY I SEE IT

About This Column

by C. H. Overman

About eleven years of my life were spent in the writing and editing field. For several years, however, I have done very little writing; but I never have really dropped the idea.

Many Free Will Baptists fondly remember the Rev. J. C. Griffin. Brother Griffin was the epitome of Christian character and humility. For many years he wrote a column in "The Free Will Baptist" called "Notes and Quotes." For the most part, it consisted of just what the title suggested. Some years after Brother Griffin's death, I was discussing "Notes and Quotes" with Mrs. Griffin, with the idea of writing the column myself. Mrs. Griffin was pleased with the idea. I knew, however, that such a column could only be written by one who attends many of the denominational meetings, and one with a special insight in the work of Free Will Baptists. So I could never feel qualified to assume the writing of "Notes and Quotes."

For some time I have wanted to again do some writing on a regular basis. There have been many thoughts, beliefs, experiences, and convictions that I wished to share with others. Thus, the beginning of this column, "The Way I See It," instead of "Notes and Quotes."

Readers may not see things as I do, and such is one's privilege. I would hope that overall we will be able to discuss those things that would strengthen the cause of Christ and the work of our denomination. Thus, this column is dedicated to straight-forward observations and convictions based upon the Word of God, and in the spirit of Christian love. Readers' comments are welcomed and may be sent to the editor of this publication, or to me at 1201 Stokes Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. Just remember to express yourself "the way you see it," as I'm trying to do.

Hail Columbia!

Did you see the landing of the space shuttle, "Columbia," on April 14? What a sight to behold! What a salute to American technology! For more than two years Columbia was what some called a "$10 billion question mark." But the success of the venture has resolved most of those questions and doubts. A sense of pride has spread across our land. Our great country has once again launched ahead in the space race.

All of this technological success has made me wonder—how wonderful it would be if our earth-bound problems could be solved through good "ole" American techology. We may be reaching the stars, but we are still bound by our earthly surroundings. The problems are increasing, it seems. To solve man's problems with man, and man's own inner conflicts, we will have to reach up—up to God who is above all. We will have to allow His love through Jesus Christ to flood our souls. At least, that's the way I see it.

News from the

Children's Home

QUARTERLY RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT
JANUARY – MARCH, 1981
$40,398.97

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Albemarle District Convention	$ 40.00
Gum Neck	8.00
Hickory Chapel	265.00
Mount Tabor	335.05
Mount Zion	227.01
Shiloh	216.70
Sound Side	50.00
Union Chapel	323.47
Union Meeting	21.19
Total	$ 1,486.42

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 20.00
Catalpa Mission	50.00
Goldsboro, First	81.00
Haymount	132.52
Hopewell	140.18
Johnston Union	310.25
Lanwood Chapel	96.30
Lee's Chapel	1,107.11
Palmer Memorial	218.47
Pleasant Grove	403.50
Powhatan	22.00
Robert's Grove	345.65
Saint Mary's Grove	200.00
Shady Grove	66.46
Smithfield, First	20.00
Victory Mission	30.55
Yelverton Grove	112.33
Total	$ 3,356.32

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 853.00
Ayden	510.00
Bethany	250.00
Black Jack	556.85
Daniels Chapel	20.00
Dilda's Grove	486.52
Edgewood	105.00
Elm Grove	110.00
Free Union	739.00
Friendship	828.87
Grimsley	53.00
Greenville, First	30.00
Gum Swamp	282.50
Harrell's Chapel	305.00
Hickory Grove	5.00
Hugo	129.00
Hull Road	197.50
King's Cross Roads	258.95
LaGrange	275.00
Little Creek	165.00
Marlboro	445.51
Maury	120.00
Ormondsville	500.00
Otter's Creek	188.41
Peace	81.25
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	242.46
Piney Grove (Pitt County)	48.00
Reedy Branch	615.43
Roanoke Rapids, First	28.66
Rocky Mount, First	75.00
Rose Hill	100.00
Rose of Sharon	81.00
Sweet Gum Grove	74.25
Tarboro, First	600.00
Williamston, First	254.09
Winterville	848.43
Total	$10,462.68

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 355.00
Arapahoe	275.12
Bethel	67.00
Bethlehem	15.00
Bridgeton	238.71
British Chapel	163.51
Cabin	290.58
Core Creek	286.53
Core Point	61.80
Croatan	100.00
Crab Point	30.00
Carteret County Sunday School Convention	76.00
Daly's Chapel	60.00
Davis	5.25
Deep Run	216.00
Dublin Grove	199.98
Faith Mission	75.00
Folkstone	500.00
Friendship	10.00
Hillsberry	130.00
Holly Springs	4,150.41
Indian Springs	75.00
Jackson Heights	189.54
Juniper Chapel	161.55
Kinston, First	122.31
Lanier's Chapel	276.79
May's Chapel	10.00
Memorial	29.50
Macedonia	550.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	50.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	287.00
New Haven	355.74
Northeast	233.44
Oak Grove	83.34
Pearsall Chapel	150.00
Pilgrim's Home	20.00
Rock of Zion	153.57
Sandy Plain	426.94
Sarecta	90.22
Smith's New Home	43.19
Smyrna	75.00
Sneads Ferry	100.00
Sound View	130.25
Spring Hope	155.00
Saint Mary's	628.88
Trent	35.00
Union Number 3	50.00
Vanceboro, First	298.00
Wardens Grove	44.65
Warsaw	140.00
Westside	223.00
Whaley's Chapel	200.00
White Oak Grove	765.09
Wintergreen	500.00
Total	$13,958.89

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	$ 525.00
District Convention	225.00
Emerson	100.00
Oak Grove	501.98
Union Number 2	130.00
Total	$ 1,481.98

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Bethany	$ 40.00
Calvary	43.72
Cathedral	20.00
East Rockingham	120.86
Highland Pines	15.00
Hopewell	120.00
Total	$ 359.58

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE	
Roaring Creek	$ 143.15
Total	$ 143.15
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Agape Mission	$ 50.00
Barnes Hill	175.00
Black Jack Grove	150.00
Branch Chapel	675.00
Durham, First	50.00
Everett Chapel	339.48
Flood's Chapel	35.00
Free Union	2.70
Fremont	11.25
Friendship	200.00
Holly Springs	50.00
Kenly	787.03
Little Rock	44.16
Marsh Swamp	165.00
Memorial Chapel	110.00
Micro	190.00
Milbournie	475.00
Mount Zion	784.70
New Sandy Hill	220.00
Oak Grove	228.08
People's Chapel	145.00
Pine Level	35.00
Piney Grove	143.00
Pleasant Grove	60.50
Pleasant Hill	200.00
Pleasant Plain	290.57
Rosebud	44.30
Sunday School Convention	25.00
St. Mary's	527.72
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	525.00
Spring Hill	3.00
Stancill's Chapel	266.96
Stoney Creek	150.00
Trinity	25.00
Union Chapel	97.50
Union Grove	205.50
Union Number 1	75.00
Unity	6.00
Wilson, First	1,157.50
Youth Fellowship	75.00
Total	$ 8,849.95
OTHER RELIGIOUS	
White Oak Hill	$ 25.00
Total	$ 25.00
OTHER STATES	
Bim Ladies Aid	$ 30.00
Boone County Youth League	75.00
Total	$ 105.00
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	$ 120.00
Life Award Fees	50.00
Total	$ 170.00

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. C. F. Bowen has moved to Ayden. His new address is 503 Juanita Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513; phone, 746-4106.

MEMORIALS GIVEN
JANUARY – MARCH, 1981
Total $230.00

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Parthenia Goulding	Frederick S. Dickinson Sr.
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Hickory Chapel Young Adult Sunday School Class	Mr. Hallie Tinkham
William and Joyce Tyndall	E. T. Williams
Margaret and Selma Briley	Walter and Catherine Briley

ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS

The Eastern District Woman's Conference is just three weeks away. It will be held on the beautiful Bay River at Camp Vandemere, June 22 through June 26. The fee for the week is $40.

Don't forget to send the "woman of the year" from your auxiliary. If she can't stay the entire week, please have her there Monday evening. The directors of the conference are Happy Taylor and Nina Grace Register, who have special plans to honor the "woman of the year."

There will be preaching, Bible study, special singing, crafts, good fellowship and food.

On Wednesday, a trip is planned to cross the Neuse River on the ferry to Cherry Point, have a shopping spree in the Morehead City Plaza, tour old Fort Macon and the Coast Guard Station, and eat lunch at Captain Bill's Restaurant on the waterfront.

Ladies, pray much for the conference, pack lightly and join us for a week of worship, fellowship, and fun at Camp Vandemere. The Eastern District welcomes all of you.

Rena Kirk
Eastern District President

NOTICE
To All Free Will Baptist Men

Please help us identify your men or men's group as a Layman's League in your church and conference.

We can issue a charter, supply a copy of the Constitution and By-laws, and a Layman's League Handbook.

Paul Beaman
Secretary of State Layman's League Board

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Marvin R. Waters has a new address. It is 300 Fleet Street, New Bern, North Carolina 28560. The new phone numbers are 638-1030 (home) and 637-3485 (church study). His former address was Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865.

NEWS & NOTES

STONEY CREEK GROUP GOES TO CRAGMONT



On May 1, many of the members of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, journeyed to Cragmont for a retreat. In all, 115 people from the church spent the weekend at Cragmont enjoying the beauty of the mountains and Cragmont itself. The weather was cool, with frost on Sunday morning, but the spirit of the group was not affected by the temperature. Services were conducted on Saturday and Sunday giving each person a challenge to become a better and stronger Christian. Everyone who experienced the weekend thanked God for His manifold blessings.

Little Creek Church To Have Special Day

Little Creek Free Will Baptist Church, at Scuffleton, will observe "Pastor and Family Appreciation Day" on Sunday, June 7, 1981. Families and friends are invited to attend the 11 a.m. service and to stay for the dinner which will be served outside.

The Rev. Frank Flowers is the pastor of the church.

Mother-Daughter Banquet Held at Mount Tabor

The Woman's Auxiliary of Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, Creswell, North Carolina, held a Mother-Daughter Banquet recently.

Mrs. Clara Phelps welcomed those in attendance; Mrs. Ruth Ambrose read from the Bible. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Doris Simmons. Mrs. Teresa Ambrose and Mrs. Brenda Williams provided special music for the occasion, and Mrs. Floyd Burkey was guest speaker. The benediction was given by Mrs. Sheila McAbee. Mrs. Brenda Williams served as mistress of ceremonies.

Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal and the program.

Wood Receives Divinity Degree

The Rev. Philip Ray Wood, Smithfield, North Carolina, was among the more than 280 graduates at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary commencement exercises recently.

Mr. Wood, who received the Master of Divinity degree, is serving in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithfield.

Pastor Offers Resignation



The Rev. C. M. Coats

The Rev. C. M. Coats of 208 Hancock Street, Smithfield, North Carolina, has offered his resignation as pastor of Yelverton Grove Free Will Baptist Church after seven years of service. His resignation is effective June 30, 1981. He has made no plans toward future pastoral work.

During his seven years at Yelverton Grove, much progress has been made. He has been a faithful and diligent worker for God and the people. The members of the church wish to express their appreciation and gratitude for all of the things that Mr. Coats has done for them and the community. It is the sincere wish of everyone from the community that he will enjoy good health and much happiness in all things that God enables him to do in the future.

First Church, Plymouth Hosts Fellowship

The Albemarle Ministers' Fellowship will meet at First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, North Carolina, on Friday, June 7, at 11:30 a.m. All ministers are invited to attend. The Rev. Floyd Burkey will bring the devotions.

First Church, Wilson Has New Pastor

The Rev. Craig Simmons assumed the pastorate of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, on May 13, 1981. He has served as the associate pastor and director of youth ministries at the church since 1978. Mr. Simmons, a Creswell, North Carolina, native, graduated from Creswell High School, has received a degree from Mount Olive College, and is presently attending Atlantic Christian College. He is a member of the Cragmont Board of Directors and Counselor-teacher at the General Youth Conference at Cragmont Assembly. He is active in all phases of denominational work.

His wife is the former Jackie Warren of Williamston, North Carolina. She graduated from Atlantic Christian College with a degree in education of the hearing impaired, and is presently teaching third grade at Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf.

The church welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Simmons as their pastoral family and pledge their love and support to them as they work together as the family of God.

(Continued on Page 14)

MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCES AT ROBERT'S GROVE

submitted by Mrs. James Spell

Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, has enjoyed some mountaintop experiences in the last few months.

During the first week in March, the church had a very spiritual revival. The evangelist was the Rev. Earl Glenn. His messages were really heart-stirring, and as a result, many rededicated their lives anew to the Lord, thirteen accepted Him as their Saviour and joined the church, and two joined by letter.

On Sunday morning, March 22, the youth were in charge of Sunday school and worship services. They did a wonderful job and everyone enjoyed the services. The church is very grateful to the youth director, Susan Faircloth, and her coworkers, Debra Tew, Brenda Tyndall, Frankie Wrench, Monty McLamb.

On Sunday night, the Rev. Earl Glenn came back to conduct a dedication service and to baptize the thirteen candidates. During the dedication service, Craig and Teresa Jackson and Miles and Bonnie Jackson dedicated their babies to the Lord.

During the worship service on Easter Sunday morning, the Chancel Choir gave a very inspirational cantata depicting the death and miraculous Resurrection of Jesus our Saviour. We just thank the Lord again and again for the choir director, Dixie Honeycutt, the musicians Gary Barefoot and Shelby Jackson, and each member of the choir.

Then on Saturday night, April 25, the Vanguard I Sunday School Class held their annual "Appreciation Dinner" for the Senior Citizens. The Fellowship Hall was beautifully decorated, and a delicious meal was prepared and served by the class members. After dinner, special music was presented by some of the men in the class. The speaker for the evening was the Rev. Jeff Scarborough, pastor of Shady Grove church. He brought a very inspiring message which was based on Psalm 84.

A very good time was had by everyone who attended. Thank you, Vanguard I Class.

IN MEMORY OF VELMA WILLIAMS JOHNSON

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-3).

On January 7, 1981, God in His great love and mercy took our dearly beloved Christian friend to be with Him in the place He had prepared for her.

Velma became a Christian as a teenager and united with the First Christian Church in Wilson, North Carolina. After her marriage to R. S. (Johnnie) Johnson they moved to Pompano Beach, Florida. She and her husband joined the North Pompano Beach Baptist Church there. She served her church well as a Sunday school teacher, sang in the chancel choir, was assistant pianist for the adult Sunday school department and for the young people's department for many years. She was also active in all phases of the auxiliary work of the church. As in the life of all true Christians, God was supreme in her life.

Soon after moving to Lucama, North Carolina, she and her husband came to our church, Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, by letter. They received a most cordial welcome from all the members and they became a great asset

(Continued on Page 14)

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 14

CLAIMING GOD'S PROMISE

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 1:19-26, 29-31

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 1:21

I. INTRODUCTION

Our lesson for today is about God's offer of a land to the homeless people of Israel, with the promise of the power necessary to possess that land. These people had been enslaved in Egypt, but God had sent Moses with the promise, "I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, . . . and I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob" (Exodus 6:6, 8).

The people are now in the plains of Moab (Deuteronomy 1:5; 34:1, 8). Across the River Jordan lies the Land of Promise, waiting to be claimed. Forty years of unnecessary wandering in the wilderness have elapsed since Israel left Egypt (1:3), years that must have been rugged at best. Some may have begun to despair that God's promise ever would be fulfilled. In our printed Scripture, Moses is rehearsing to the people the reason for the long delay in their entering the land. As we shall see, it was not due to any caprice or inability on the part of God, but to the refusal of the people to respond to God in faith. Standing now in Moab, looking across into Canaan, Moses reminds these people that the land could have been theirs a generation ago if they only had claimed God's promise. **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In the first chapter of Deuteronomy, which we study today, we have in verses one through five the introduction to the whole book. The time setting for the book is given in verse one. It was on the first day of the eleventh month, after the departure of the Israelites from Egypt. What should have been an eleven-day journey by faith was changed to forty years of wandering in unbelief. During all this time Moses had been the leader of the people. Now Moses is near the end of his life, and this book is taken up with his last speeches or discourses to the people.

B. There are two things that characterize all of these discourses of Moses in the Book of Deuteronomy. First, he is constantly reminding the people to remember their past blessings from the Lord. Perhaps Moses spoke much of the past because of his age. His age may have been involved, but we must not forget that this book, like all other Scripture, was given under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The truth is that our past blessings from the Lord give us a great motivating reason for trusting Him in the present.

C. The second characteristic of these discourses is their call for complete obedience. Moses realized that it was the disobedience of the people that had kept them from going on into the Promised Land a long time ago. So in these last discourses, he is challenging the people to completely trust the Lord and give obedience to His every command.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Deuteronomy is not only a book of the reviewing of the law but also contains the counsels of Moses to Israel on the eve of their entrance into Canaan. He could not go into the land with them as foretold in Numbers 3:27, but would die and be buried on the wilderness side of the River Jordan. His great concern for the people was that they should prepare themselves to enter into the land and possess it, claiming God's promise of the land made to Abraham many years before: "Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them" (1:8), an exhortation repeated in Verse 21, our Memory Selection.

B. In the first part of Chapter 1, Moses began a review of the way God delivered the Israelites from Egyptian bondage and how He led them to the bleak region of Sinai, to Mount Horeb. This was done that they might be reminded of His care and love for them. Our lesson today takes up the narrative at Horeb.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

NOTICE

The Bethany Youth, Central Conference, will sponsor an Ice-Cream Supper, June 7, from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m., at the Bethany Fellowship Hall, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina. Several flavors of delicious homemade ice cream and cake will be served, all you can eat for a donation to raise funds to send our youth to Cragmont. Following the supper, you are invited to join us in our evening worship service.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

COMMENCEMENT 1981—A SPECIAL DAY

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.



Receiving honor awards at Mount Olive College graduation exercises were, from left: Scott Boyette of Princeton, LaRose Blackman Jackson of Grantham, Karen Diane Kornegay of Mount Olive, Kim Hollowell of Grantham, Karen Hartley of Princeton, and Neal Tilghman of Cove City. (Photo courtesy of GOLDSBORO NEWS-ARGUS)

The 27th and largest graduating class ever at Mount Olive College recently heard Air Force Chaplain John B. Narron say life can be exciting every day if we realize learning is a continuous process, have personal faith in God, and apply Jesus' teachings to our lives.

The 118 candidates for graduation included 112 for the Associate in Science, three for the Associate in Arts, and three for the one-year Certificate in Business.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Three student awards were presented. The Jordan Award for outstanding citizenship was presented to Scott Boyette. The recipient is chosen by vote of the student body. The Martin Award, given by the Robert M. Martin family for the highest academic average, was presented to LaRose Blackman Jackson and Karen Diane Kornegay, both of whom graduated with perfect 4.0 averages. Three students, Kimberly J. Hollowell, Karen A. Hartley, and William Neal Tilghman, tied for the Perret Award given to the freshman with the highest academic average. All three ended their first year studies with perfect 4.0 averages. The Perret Award is given in memory of Michael J. Perret, who served on the Mount Olive College faculty from 1957-1968.

In addition to the student awards, two retiring faculty members were honored. Claude H. Moore served 13 years as Professor of History, and Kathleen Warren served for 23½ years as Professor of Music. Two scholarships of $500 each were established in their names.

The graduation speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Narron, was educated at Atlantic Christian College, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, East Carolina University, and the Citadel in South Carolina. A native of Wilson and a Free Will Baptist minister, he has pastored a number of churches in North Carolina. Currently, Chaplain Narron is Senior Installation Chaplain at the Air Force base in Rome, New York. He has won a number of Air Force awards and has been on assignment in numerous countries around the world. Mr. Narron's daughter, Ruth, was in the graduating class.

"We become quite excited when we see something spectacular like the successful flight of the space shuttle a few weeks ago," Mr. Narron said. "But many of us 'average' people feel that our lives are not exciting. However, life can be exciting and I want to share with you three things that can help your life be exciting."

The first thing Chaplain Narron suggested is that learning is a continuous process. "Many of you may think that you have come to the climax of your learning. But this is only the beginning of the process," he said.

"This is only the springboard for much more learning that must now take place. Keep your mind open and be willing to learn new things each day."

Turn the Page

Mr. Narron said discovering a new truth is an exciting experience and pointed out that there was a possibility that one of the graduating students might be the person to find a cure for cancer. "But you must keep your mind open and make learning a continuous process for this to happen."

Second, Chaplain Narron said having a personal faith in God can make life more exciting. "With increasing secularity, materialism, and the emphasis on technology, there is a great spiritual hunger in the world," he said. "To have faith in God and to practice this daily can be of tremendous help to you.

"You've had a chance at Mount Olive College to look at faith and make it more personal. The temptation for many is to give up their faith. But don't. Keep your personal faith in God."

Finally, Mr. Narron challenged the candidates to apply what Jesus taught to their everyday lives. "Be honest, responsible, and accountable to yourself, God, and others.

"You have gained certain skills at Mount Olive College and have learned how to make a living," he said. "But this College has also helped you know how to live life. You must now put this into practice.

"Your life can make a real difference in the world. And as people of faith, we can make a redemptive difference."

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT SAINT'S DELIGHT CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Saint's Delight Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, on Sunday, June 7, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During the visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Noah Brown.

LIFE IN A FISH-BOWL

(Continued from Page 4)

$7,000, half his retirement and hospitalization, match his social security. A full-time church should be willing to pay a minister $14,000, his full retirement and hospitalization and half his social security payment. Ministers are required to pay state and federal income taxes and social security taxes at self-employment rates.

Giving the minister the option of renting or buying his own home gives him a feeling of permanence and security that parsonage living does not offer. It also gives him greater sense of responsibility for the basic needs of his family. It gives him a greater awareness of the struggles of the majority of his parishioners and it can provide him with the opportunity of saying "providing for your families' needs is no excuse for neglecting your stewardship obligations towards the Church, the Body of Christ." It will also serve to give him greater credibility with the congregation in the area of personal finances.

A housing allowance is a continuous expense for a congregation, but so is a parsonage—that is if it is kept up to par as it should be. In the long run the housing allowance may well be the best investment for the congregation as well as for the clergy.

IN MEMORY OF Velma Williams Johnson

(Continued from Page 11)

to our church. Even though she was in failing health, she attended church when she could. She was an active member of the Woman's Auxiliary Circle Number One. She always made a contribution to our meetings with her pleasant smile and kind words of her knowledge of God's Word.

In our visits to her in her sickness, we came away feeling that we had received more than we had given. She was never too sick to express her deep and abiding faith in our God. We knew we had visited with one of His children here on earth. It was a joy to labor with this dear friend in the Kingdom of God. We are looking forward to the day when we can be with her in that blessed place that God has prepared for His people.

She is survived by her husband, R. S. Johnson; one brother, Edgar Williams of Seven Springs, Maryland; and a host of loving friends.

Funeral services were held by her pastor, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes. Burial was in the Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, North Carolina.

Though our sister, Velma, has left us
To join the auxiliary above;
She is waiting there to greet us
With gentle arms of love.
"Blest be the tie that binds,"
We shall sing together again,
While we beam our lights upward,
As we join in the sacred refrain.

submitted by Pearl Blalock

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

Daly's Chapel to Have Homecoming

Daly's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Seven Springs, North Carolina, will observe its homecoming on June 7, 1981. The pastor, the Rev. David W. Hansley, will bring the morning message. Lunch will be served in the church fellowship hall at 12:30 p.m.

The afternoon services will feature special singing by the local church choir, quartet, youth trio, with visiting choirs taking part.

The pastor and congregation extend an invitation to everyone to come and enjoy the services.

Youth Frontier Conference
AFC

AFC Conference

July 6-11

Registration Fee $10

Balance due upon boarding bus: $60

AGES 8-12

Director: Doug Skinner

Phone 249-1484

Hello!

Your AFC Conference staff is excited about our fast-approaching camping week this summer. We have many fun and exciting events planned that will be educational and inspirational. We hope you and your friends are even now planning for a great week at Cragmont.

The theme for the week will be "I Am a Promise." The dates will be July 6-11. To make sure you are among the 150 campers we will take this year, please mail your application as soon as possible (no later than June 30). Fill out the application below and mail it to me along with a registration fee of $10. Letters of information will be mailed to you explaining what you need to carry to camp and where you will meet the bus. The cost of camp is $65 plus a $5 activity fee. An optional expense is $2 for those of you who want a copy of the group picture.

- -

APPLICATION

NAME OF CAMPER _____

ADDRESS _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

AGE _____ BIRTHDAY _____ SEX _____ HEIGHT _____

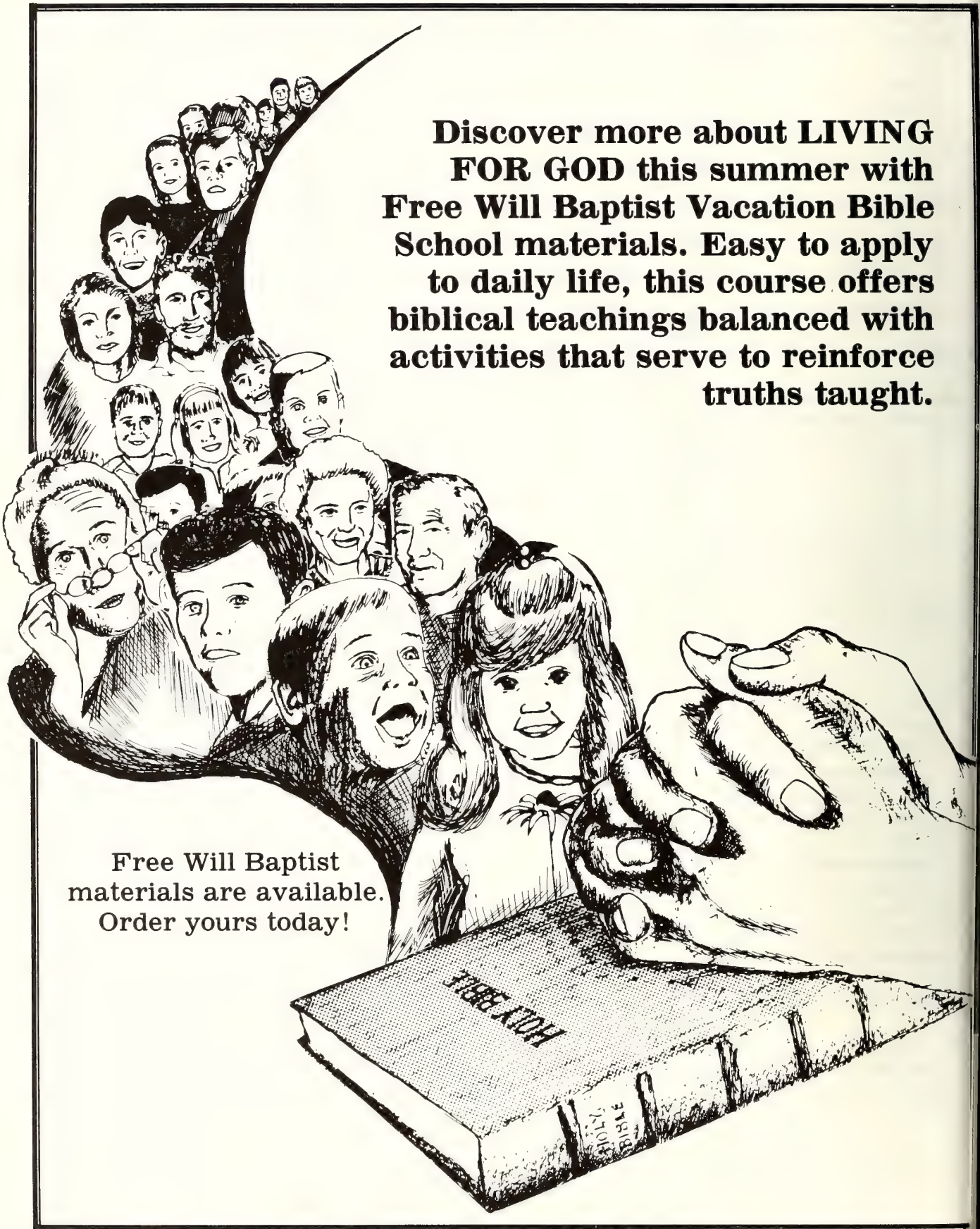
CHURCH _____

PASTOR'S NAME _____

PASTOR'S ADDRESS _____

Please make checks payable to: AFC Conference
Send application along with $10 registration fee to:
Doug Skinner, Director
AFC Conference
P.O. Box 117
Arapahoe, NC 28510

"I AM A PROMISE"


Discover more about LIVING FOR GOD this summer with Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School materials. Easy to apply to daily life, this course offers biblical teachings balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.
Free Will Baptist materials are available. Order yours today!
HOLY BIBLE

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

Black Mountain, North Carolina
John Williams, Manager

Broken Hearts: Part Two

Because the incidence of life-ending hunger is so far removed from American society, the average American has difficulty grasping the fact that 10,000 people die daily as a result of starvation. (Why, to many of us, "starving" means being without food for two hours!) Many have been led to believe that everyone in the world could succeed if they would just work hard, take advantage of existing opportunities, apply themselves, and save money. But **the hungry** are held victims within the vicious circle of poverty. Their tragic position is further complicated by unequal food distribution among and within nations, irregular weather patterns, and political oppression.

As Americans, we have been blessed materially (but our real abundance is the result of our relationship with God, the Father; it is not because we are American citizens, or because of material goods we possess). We spend over 1.2 trillion dollars a year on goods and services. According to the United States Department of Commerce, we spend 20.7% of every $100 (on the average, after outlays for taxes and savings) on food and beverages; of this amount 2.4% is spent on alcoholic beverages. Religious activities only receive 1.3%; while foreign travel nets .4% and personal care 1.4%. Tobacco purchases and private education claim 1.5% of our money; housing 15.3%; household operations, 14.6%; transportation, 13.7%; medical care, 9.7%; clothing, 8.2%; recreation, 6.6%; and personal business expenses, 5.1%.

In comparison, someone living in a Third World country would spend approximately 87.5% of every $100 on food. Clothing, medical care, and ceremonial expenses would each claim 4.16%. Keep in mind that the average yearly income in Third World countries is $200.

Starving children and adults may not be fed if we merely close our eyes and pretend they do not exist. Progress can be made; more people can be helped; and they, in turn, can lead productive lives. But you and I must consider our responsibilities. Let us ask ourselves if we are good stewards of our wealth. Do we respond to mankind's hurts with love and compassion?

For some time now, the Foreign Mission Board of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has been concerned about a program for relief of hunger in the world, for this is but another form of mission work. Such a program has been arranged with World Vision, Inc., of Monrovia, California. World Vision International began its work in 1950, as a channel of love to the poor and suffering people in war-torn Korea. Since then, it has expanded its ministry and reached into nearly 100 nations, proclaiming the gospel and demonstrating God's love.

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

"The Free Will Baptist Mountain"

written by DeWayne Eakes

NESTLED on the slopes of Mount Allen near Black Mountain, North Carolina, s "The Free Will Baptist Mountain," Cragnont Assembly. You know it as the location of ur denomination's "Spiritual Retreat Center" or young people of all ages. Going to Cragnont is "going to camp" for scores of Original ree Will Baptists every year.

"Christian camping within the North arolina Original Free Will Baptist Church did ot begin with Cragmont Assembly. In the late irties, young people (through the Sunday chool and league conventions) rented Camp each, an Episcopal camp, on the Pamlico iver near Washington, North Carolina. Later hen the camp was no longer available, due to he Episcopalians who owned it having a full chedule all summer (1944), we were forced to ook elsewhere."[1]

The Revs. J. B. Spencer and James Evans ere charged with finding a camp to lease, ent or buy. Several sites were considered and ound unsuitable. At this point, I believe the and of Providence is discernible! These men ere advised to look in the mountains of estern North Carolina. In 1945, a portion of he YWCA Camp, Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina, was rented for 125 ampers. While there, the Rev. W. L. Moretz of wannanoa told our ministers about 'Craignont,' then an abandoned private sanatorium, nd our group of leaders went to look at it late he night. Among those I remember who were Blue Ridge were: the Revs. Henry Melvin, . P. Harris, C. F. Bowen, the Rev. and Mrs. E. Ballard, the Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Holland, and the Rev. Willey, missionary to Cuba. They took the stand that we ought to buy it . . . .[2]

After meeting with the Central Committee (Assembly Grounds Committee) an option to buy within three months was taken by the Assembly Grounds Committee for $500. "The price of the option was paid from the 'Dime Bank Fund.' Dime banks were furnished to the Sunday schools of the state and one dime per Sunday was to be deposited for the camp. The credit for the Dime Bank idea is due to the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser."[3]

A major fund-raising campaign was begun immediately. Ten captains were appointed to raise the $10,000 required to purchase the property. Each captain was responsible for raising $1,000. The captains were Mr. Fountain Taylor Sr., the Rev. R. B. Spencer, Mrs. L. E. Ballard, the Rev. Rashie Kennedy, Mrs. J. C. Moye, Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Mrs. N. E. Harris, the Rev. R. P. Harris, the Rev. Henry Melvin, and Mr. Robert Godley. Mr. Fountain Taylor Sr. raised the highest amount of $1,502.17. The campaign was a complete success; and in 1945, the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptists became owners of 115 acres (six cleared) on the slopes of Mount Allen (at the time of purchase the buildings alone on the property were appraised in excess of $15,000).

The stated purpose for Cragmont Assembly Grounds according to the fund-raising campaign was fourfold. "The Cragmont Assembly Grounds will be used: first, for the Sunday schools and leagues to hold summer camps each year for recreation, Bible study, institute work and revival services; second, it will be

Turn the Page

used as a gathering place for Woman's Auxiliary camps, conventions, Bible study and recreation; third, the ministers will use it for assemblies and conferences, Bible institutes, district assemblies and conferences from time to time; fourth, it will be used also for the entertainment of those who wish to spend a week or so, when it is not otherwise occupied, for a vacation in the mountains for rest and recreation." In stating the purpose of Cragmont Assembly, the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser coined the motto, "Instruction, Inspiration, and Recreation," which has subsequently been adopted as the motto for Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

The government of Cragmont Assembly is unique in our denomination. Our four statewide conventions share equally in its governance. The State Sunday School Convention, State League Convention, State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, and the State Convention of Churches elect three "stockholders" each to the Cragmont Board of Stockholders. In the annual January Board of Stockholders meeting, the manager is hired, petitions for weeks of encampment are approved and the Board of Stockholders elects seven persons to form a Board of Directors for the Assembly for the ensuing year. A treasurer is elected who may or may not be a member of the Board of Stockholders.

Cragmont was officially purchased in 1945; the first encampments were held the following year in 1946. Which organization do you think held the first official encampment? The Woman's Auxiliary Convention conducted the first encampment June 30—July 6, 1946. The League Convention, Sunday School Convention and ministers held their first conferences that same year. The net profit after the first year of operation was $9.22 (this was after spending $9,000 for repairs and salaries)! The total assets of the Assembly (according to the 1946 audit prepared by Raymond T. Sasser) were $24,366.67. According to an appraisal reported to the February 23, 1980, Board of Directors meeting, the value of our buildings alone amounted to $694,520! A major portion of that is, of course, the new main building.

In the mid 1950s, the nine-unit motel complex was constructed. In 1964, the cottage behind the motel was purchased from the Rev. Johnny Floyd. In the late 1960s, a five-stage development program was adopted while the Board was under the leadership of the Rev. Cedric Pierce. In 1971, the first stage of that program was initiated under the leadership of the Rev. Adrian Grubbs, which consisted of the construction of two dormitory units sleeping up to 80 persons each. In 1974-75, the much needed kitchen-dining hall was constructed. In 1977, the old main building was torn down, and 1978-79 saw the completion of the new main building. Built under the leadership of the Rev. Willis Wilson, the new building houses a large chapel-assembly room. The construction of this building completed stages three and four of the planned development program. The fifth and final stage of the planned development program, is improving and broadening our recreational facilities.

Cragmont's physical growth is very significant. A very good record for only thirty-six years! But this institution's greatest contribution is found in the effects of its ministry on the lives of the Free Will Baptists (and others) in North Carolina. (One major contribution Cragmont has made to our denomination is that it housed Mount Allen Junior College, now Mount Olive College.) Ministers have responded affirmatively to the "call of the gospel ministry" either at Cragmont or due to the influence of an encampment there. Some have been led to pursue a ministry as missionaries. Many hundreds, even thousands of men, women, boys and girls have come to Cragmont and gone home more inspired, more determined, and more committed to the service of God through the local church and the Original Free Will Baptist denomination of North Carolina.

From its very meagre and unsteady beginning, Cragmont has been richly blessed with ever-increasing support and interest which has enabled it to reach its present status. Cragmont's ministry for 1981 includes: General Youth Conference, June 15-20; Christian Cadet Conference, June 22-27; Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, June 29—July 4; Youth Frontier Conference/AFC Week, July 6-11; Ministers' Conference, July 20-23; Young People's Bible Conference, July 27—August 1; Woman's Auxiliary Conferences, August 3-8, 10-15 (our General Baptist brethren have already used Cragmont for their annual ministers' meeting this year). Scores of weekend church retreat groups have used and will use this facility.

Truly Cragmont's greatest historical and future value is to be found in the lives that are changed, inspired and enriched by this mountaintop ministry. It is my firm conviction that Cragmont's greatest history and service remain in the unwritten pages of the future!

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[1]The Rev. James A. Evans, Letter of February 25, 1971.

[2]Ralph Barnes, Letter of October 25, 1979.

[3]Mr. Fountain Taylor Sr., Letter of February 25, 1972.

(All of the footnoted materials are on deposit with a collection of Cragmont materials in the "Free Will Baptist Historical Collection," Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina.)

ABOUNDING ALIVENESS

by Rusty Smith

The Scripture for this topic is taken from 1 Thessalonians 3:12. The King James Version says, "And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you." To refresh our memory of what had happened just before, so we can understand why Paul said this, Paul, Silas, and Timothy had been in Thessalonica preaching to the people about Jesus Christ.

Some of the people there accepted the message and started living for God. Some didn't believe and started causing trouble. Paul, Silas, and Timothy had to leave, because they were being persecuted. Paul sent Timothy back to check on the Thessalonian people. He took Paul a very good report telling him that the people were as faithful and strong as they were when they had left there. Paul was very pleased so he wrote the people at the church in Thessalonica a letter telling them how pleased he was that they were still carrying on the work of God.

They had been through many trials and troubles which Paul had warned them about when he was there. Paul told them how thankful to God he was for them keeping their faith and working even through their troubles. Paul told the people at Thessalonica to always grow in their love toward each other and let it be so real and alive that it would overflow to each other and to everyone else just as his love had for them.

Today, I believe that Paul would tell us just as he did the people in Thessalonica to let our love abound to each other and grow stronger and more faithful to each other. We need to let our love grow as God wants it to grow. We should love without expecting others to even love us in return. To abound means to be full and overflowing with God's love and to be alive, or full of energy ready to do a great work to show our love to others.

Do people know that you love them? Can they tell that you love them? If not then you had better take a look at the kind of love you have. You may have heard "Your actions speak louder than your words." So let's remember others are watching what we do and where we go as much or more than what we might have to say. You can always find ways of showing love and concern for others no matter where you are. Sometimes just a friendly smile says a lot about you. Just try walking down a street anywhere and give a friendly smile to the people you pass and see what happens.

We need to take a look at ourselves and see if God would be pleased with the way we show our love to each other. Are we truly filled with God's love so much that we really want to share it with everyone we come in contact with? Or are we just dragging along, passing people every day with a long face, never smiling, nothing really showing our love to each other.

Abounding aliveness tells us we need to be so filled with God's love that we would be sharing it with everyone we meet to the extent that our hearts would just be overflowing with God's love to everyone. We should not just love our friends, but even people we don't know and people who don't even like us. Matthew 5:44 says, "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." That's the kind of love Paul had. He was a very devoted Christian. Why should we love even the people we don't know or people who hate us? John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

If God loved us enough to give His only Son to die for us, then that is all the reason we need to show our love to each other. God loves everyone. If we show love only to our friends and not our enemies, are we really acting like true sons of God? God expects us to win the sinners to Him by showing love to them. We should be so concerned about the lost sinners that we should not grow weary and tired, but keep loving them and praying for them to accept Christ as their Saviour.

If your love is God's love, then you won't have to worry about being loved yourself or having friends. There is a saying, "If you would be loved, love others." This would be a challenge for us to work toward today.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Scripture Reading—Revelation 3

MODERN MAN CAN BELIEVE

Said W. A. Criswell, in his presidential message to the Southern Baptist Convention, "America and Christian civilization lie in the balance. If we fail here, we fail everywhere. If we fail now, we, for our part, have failed for all time. Armageddon is at the door! Every church should be shocked out of its complacency and lethargy. Modern men are weary with being told they cannot believe. They want to know what they can believe. They are not interested in an emasculated, anemic, denatured Christianity!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Never have churches lived in a time of greater opportunity to exhibit the importance of faith in God and of obedience to His will. If they fail to do so, nothing could be more calamitous.

MONDAY, JUNE 15

Scripture Reading—Philippians 2:12-18

BANGING SHUTTERS

"Living with a grumbler is like living in a room with the window shutters banging in the wind," said H. E. Lucock. "Grumbling does two things, each fatal to the spiritual life: It shuts out thanksgiving, and dries the spirit of service to our fellowman."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do all things without murmurings and disputings (Philippians 2:14).

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 10:19-25

EXEMPLIFY THE TRUTH

Said Edward R. Dayton, "The church doesn't need a message that is relevant to the world. It needs Christians who are relevant to the message."

The daily lives of Christians should exemplify the changeless truths of the gospel.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Faith is not just trying to believe something regardless of the evidence. It is daring to do right regardless of the consequences.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:11-17

TELL HIM NOW

If with pleasure you are viewing
Any work a man is doing,
If you love him or you like him
Tell him now!
Don't withhold your approbation,
Until the parson makes oration,
And he lies with snowy lilies on his brow.
For no matter how you shout it,
He won't really care about it,
He won't know how many teardrops you have shed,
If you think some praise is due him,
Now's the time to ease it to him,
For he cannot read his tombstone
When he's dead!

More than fame and more than money,
Is the comment kind and sunny,
And the hearty warm approval of a friend.
For it gives to life a savor,
And it makes you truer and braver,
And it gives you hope and courage to the end.
If she earns your praise, bestow it,
If you love her, let her know it,
Let the words of true encouragement be said,
Do not wait 'til life is over,
And she's underneath the clover,
For she cannot read her tombstone when she's dead!

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth (1 John 3:18).

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

Scripture Reading—1 John 4:7-21

DO YOU AGREE?

Said Rev. Robert L. Roxburgh, pastor of the Killarney Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta, "Most of our churches are loveless . . . . The old families look on newcomers as second-class members or intruders. People in the neighborhood are seen as statistics instead of human beings with needs only Christ can meet."

Greatly does the church need a heart-searching reappraisal of its mission—the salvation of the lost ones, and the edification of its members. It should be endowed with unfeigned concern for the temporal and spiritual welfare of all people.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another (1 John 4:11).

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

Scripture Reading—Romans 5—6:1

THE FREE WILL BAPTIS

THE PLACE VERSUS THE STABLE

Said Hendrick Van Loon in *The Story of Mankind,* "It was the 753rd year since the founding of Rome. Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus Augustus was living in the palace of the Palatine Hill, busily engaged upon the task of ruling the world.

"In a little village of distant Syria, Mary, wife of Joseph the carpenter, was tending her little boy, born in a stable of Bethlehem.

"This is a strange world! Before long, the palace and the stable were to meet in open combat, and the stable was to emerge victorious!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord* (Romans 6:11).

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Scripture Reading – Romans 12

NOTHING ELSE

At a meeting of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Bobby Richardson, former New York Yankee second baseman, offered a prayer that is a classic in brevity and poignancy: "Dear God, Your will, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. Amen."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever* (1 John 2:17).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. George Greene announces that he has a new address. It is P.O. Box 2303, Asheboro, North Carolina 27203, phone 672-0628. His old address was P.O. Box 475, Elm City, North Carolina 27822.

All future correspondence should be sent to his new address.

THE WAY I SEE IT

The Annual Ministers' Conference

by the Rev. C. H. Overman

During the summer of 1951, I drove the Cragmont bus on six trips to Cragmont Assembly. These trips included the youth encampments, Ministers' Conference, and the Woman's Auxiliary week. Yes, the bus was owned by Cragmont and back then there were no interstate highways to whiz you through. It took about twelve hours to make the trip from down "east." Anyway, I attended my first Ministers' Conference that year. In 1953 I attended for the first time as an ordained minister, and at that time I was pastor of Sound Side, Malachi's Chapel and Gum Neck Free Will Baptist Churches in Tyrrell County, North Carolina. The best I can recall three others went with me. They were Brother W. L. Brickhouse (who at that time was a deacon at Sound Side church), and Brothers Richard Ambrose and L. E. Ambrose, both from the Creswell area, Mount Tabor church. Since those years it has been my privilege to attend many of the Ministers' Conferences at Cragmont, having missed only a few.

Over the years there has been a marked increase in attendance, from around thirty to forty per year to a present total of more than ninety. Many changes have taken place. For one thing, many of those faithful, staunch men of God are no longer with us, each having been called to his Heavenly reward. Another change has been in the facilities at Cragmont. In those early years it was primarily the old main building that accommodated everyone. Later came the motel, the new dining hall, the dormitories, the Massey House, the Floyd House, and finally the wonderful, new main building.

Two other changes, however, are the ones that really helped to increase our attendance; namely, allowing the ministers' wives to attend, and changing the week for the conference from the second week in June to the third week in July. If the trend continues this year, it is likely that we will have more than 100 ministers and their wives in attendance.

I have never attended any session at Cragmont without experiencing God's blessings. It is a special place, situated at the foot of lovely Mount Allen. It is dedicated to the glory of God, and because of this He has spoken to many souls and dealt with many souls at Cragmont.

The way I see it, each Free Will Baptist minister and his wife should attend the annual Ministers' Conference the week of July 20-23, 1981. A good program has been planned. As always there will be some good preaching, singing, praying, and good "ole" Free Will Baptist fellowship.

Churches are being asked to send their pastor and wife to Cragmont and that each help financially in the amount of $125. As President of the Ministerial Association, I will be expecting to see each of you at Cragmont.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Davis Free Will Baptist Church in Carteret County is in search of a full-time pastor. It is in the Eastern Conference. If interested please contact, Mr. Milton Styron, Davis, North Carolina 28524, phone 729-1741; or Mr. Joe Williams, Davis, North Carolina 28524, phone 729-3631.

NEWS & NOTES

MICRO YFA HAS BAKE SALE



The Youth Fellowship Auxiliary of First Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, held a bake sale on Friday, May 22, in front of the Branch Bank in Micro.

The young people are raising money to send twelve of their members to Cragmont during YFA week, and the bake sale was their fifth fund-raising event. With only fourteen members on their roll, the group has raised (including bake sale monies) over $700.

Pictured above are: front row—Fonda Jones, Leigh Hales, Melisa Wall, Mel Warren, Lori Evans and Teresa Wall; second row—Brad Sharpe, Anita Hales and Pam Wall. Also assisting on the project (but not pictured) were Jeff Dyson, Shari Dyson, and several ladies from the church.

The group is now distributing THE FREE WILL BAPTIST through the bundle plan.

Mrs. Carolyn Hales is Youth Director and YFA sponsor for the church.

Area Meeting Planned In Albemarle Conference

The Board of Superannuation of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists invites you to attend a meeting about the new Mutual Benevolent Fund (MBF). The MBF, a program adopted by the Board of Superannuation and endorsed by the Executive Committee of the State Convention, is being made available to all Free Will Baptist people. The meeting is planned for Friday, June 26, at First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, North Carolina, at 8 p.m.

Executive Committee of State Sunday School Convention Meets

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention met Monday night, May 25, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Kinston, North Carolina. Business before the committee consisted of plans for the annual Pastors'-Superintendents' Banquet, to be held September 11, in the auditorium of the downtown campus of Mount Olive College, at 7 p.m. The featured speaker of the evening will be Mr. Linwood Smith, General Superintendent of Sunday school at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina. Pastors, superintendents, and assistant superintendents should be making plans now to attend. There will be good friends, good food, and good fellowship.

Third Eastern District Youth Fellowship to Meet

The Third Eastern District Youth Fellowship meeting for June 20, will be held at Jackson Heights Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, at 8 p.m. The program will feature the film "Jana." Everyone is invited to attend.

General Conference To Meet

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, 419 Airport Road, Rockingham, North Carolina, on June 29 through July 1, 1981. The scheduled programs are as follows:

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 1981
7:00 p.m.—Youth Program
—Bible Bowl Quiz
—Fellowship

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1981
LADIES AUXILIARY CONVENTION
9:30 a.m.—Registration
10:00 a.m.—Convention Convenes

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION
6:00 p.m.—Registration of Ministers, Delegates and Visitors
6:15 p.m.—General Board Meeting
7:00 p.m.—Special Singing and Devotions by Local Church

7:30 p.m.—Official Opening: Conference Secretary, the Rev. Jerry Rowe
—Welcome: Host Pastor, the Rev. Eddie Edwards
—Response: the Rev. Ransom H. McAbee
7:45 p.m.—Appointment of Committees: President, the Rev. J. B. Starnes
—Reading of Minutes
—Old and New Business
—Partial Report of Credentials Committee
8:15 p.m.—Introduction of Speaker: President Starnes
—Message: the Rev. Jack Lassiter
8:40 p.m.—Announcements
—Adjournment: Conference President, the Rev. J. B. Starnes

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 1981
9:00 a.m.—Registration of Ministers, Delegates and Visitors
9:45 a.m.—Special Singing: Host Church
0:00 a.m.—Devotions: the Rev. John Owens
0:15 a.m.—President's Message: the Rev. J. B. Starnes
0:30 a.m.—Final Report of Credentials Committee
0:35 a.m.—Treasurer's Report
0:40 a.m.—Final Business Session
0:50 a.m.—Special Music: Host Church
1:00 a.m.—Conference Message: the Rev. Carl Lyons
2:00 noon—Announcements
—Benediction

(Continued on Page 15)

Pastor of the Week

The Rev. Dennis Pollock

Black Jack Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. Dennis Pollock, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

ON FIRE FOR THE LORD

submitted by the Members of Black Jack Grove Free Will Baptist Church



The Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Pollock and Tiffany

Among the numerous blessings one might receive at Black Jack Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina, are bound to be the spirit-rich, soul-stirring messages delivered by our beloved pastor, the Rev. Dennis Pollock. His love for the Lord rings out with each word he utters. Although Dennis has led many people to the Lord, he will be the first to assure you that he is merely an instrument of the Lord's work.

One will immediately notice Dennis' incredibly down-to-earth nature—he often refers to himself as "just a plain ole country boy." He has a lightful sense of humor. He seems to really make the most of each moment and is a shining example that one can be truly dedicated to the Lord but doesn't have to sit glumly around while on earth. In fact, his laughter and love of life have probably played a large part in his successful ministry.

Brother Dennis' work certainly does not stop at the pulpit. He actively participates in visiting the sick, counseling members, presiding at weddings and funerals, singing in the choir (and oftentimes sings a solo) and he has a very special talent for working with

(Continued on Page 15)

Cragmont News

submitted by the Rev. John Williams



Because the month of June has been designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Month, we plan to have a series of articles on Cragmont with emphasis on the growth of Cragmont. Hopefully these articles will show how large the needs are at your conference center in the mountains.

In this first article you will find a brief history which was done by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes in which you can see the physical growth of Cragmont. (For more details, see Pages 3, 4 of this issue.)

"Cragmont Assembly was established in 1945-46 by the united efforts of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. The property was formerly a private sanatorium known as 'Craigmont Sanatorium.' The property consists of 119 acres on the slopes of Mount Allen just north of the town of Black Mountain, North Carolina, on the North Fork Road. We thank God for the foresight of our forefathers in making this wise investment in the future of our denomination. The initial purchase was $10,000 which was raised and paid off within six months after the property was investigated and deemed suitable for our camping and retreat needs.

At the time of purchase there were the old three-story main building and two or three smaller buildings. Since then an eight-unit motel building, a gym, two small cottages (renovated dwellings), and in 1971 two new dormitory complexes were added. Also in 1974 a new kitchen-dining hall was built and the final realization of many dreams, much hard work, many dollars and constant prayer was seen in the construction of the new main building and chapel in 1978-79, with the building being used for the 1979 camping season. The total valuation for all our buildings is now around $700,000! God has richly blessed our mountain-top ministry at Cragmont. As you can see God has blessed us by allowing us to improve on what we started out with at Cragmont."

There are plans for the future. In a meeting this year the Board of Directors discussed plans that might further improve our facilities at Cragmont. We have a great need for an athletic field. This would involve a softball diamond, volleyball court, etc. Renovation of the motel building, including bathroom repairs and the installation of heat and carpeting is also a much needed improvement that we hope can be done in the future. Because of the size of the weekend retreat groups in the fall, we really need to have heat in the motel. These are just few improvements that we would like to make i the future. I believe that the people of ou denomination will continue to support Cragmor with their financial gifts and prayers so that w will see these improvements made.





Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

OPENINGS FOR FACULTY APPOINTMENTS AT MOC

Due to growth, retirements, and other changes, Mount Olive College has several faculty openings beginning with the 1981-82 academic year. Because of plans to become a four-year college, the College must seek persons who have advanced graduate work in the area of their appointment.

The College invites applications from qualified persons who have a firm Christian commitment to the philosophy and purposes of Mount Olive College.

Written applications should be addressed to Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, Dean and Vice President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, prior to June 22.

Business Administration

Ph. D. or D.B.A. preferred; M.B.A. with successful teaching experience will be considered. Position consists of teaching accounting, economics, and related courses.

Music-Voice

Applicants must have a Master's Degree or professional equivalent, successful experience, and sufficient keyboard proficiency to accompany students. Position consists of teaching applied voice, vocal techniques, group voice, and directing Chapel choir.

Physical Education—Women's Sports

Position includes women's basketball coach, instructor in physical education, coordination of the women's intercollegiate basketball program, coaching an additional sport, and teaching pre-majors and skill courses in the physical education department. Applicants must have a minimum of an M.A. or M.S. degree in physical education and successful coaching and teaching experience.

NEWS BRIEFS ON MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Summer School

A five-week Summer Session will be held June 15—July 17. Approximately twenty courses are being offered, including special courses which will be of interest to ministers and other church workers:

Marriage and the Family
Public Speaking
Introduction to the Old Testament
Introduction to the New Testament

Each course earns 3 semester hours of credit toward a degree or may be audited (no examination and no grade). Licensed or ordained ministers are eligible for a scholarship that will cover the cost of **tuition** except for $25 per course.

Ministers' Institute

The theme of the August 10, 11, Ministers' Institute will be "Family Ministry and Biblical Preaching." The program is scheduled from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday's session will focus on various aspects of ministry to families from premarital guidance to senior citizens. Tuesday's program will focus on the nature and content of Biblical preaching.

The program has been prepared by a representative group of ministers. There will be no tuition charge for the Institute, and ministers' wives are also invited to attend.

Other Programs

The College will be happy to arrange other educational programs on subjects recommended by area churches. Interested persons are encouraged to contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Director of Denominational Services. (Phones: office 919/658-2502; home 919/658-9363.)

Challenges for 1981-82

It is our thinking to make no increase in church "challenges" for 1981-82. Unless churches advise us otherwise, we will list the same "challenges" as we did for the current year. It is not that we do not need increased support, but we prefer to leave it to the hearts of our people to provide the support we need to reach the goals they have requested. The "challenges" are for annual budget of the College. Gifts for College Hall must be **in addition** to the "challenges."

If you would like a "Mount Olive College Day" service in your church or for the four-year program to be explained to your church officers, please contact the Office of the President: 919/658-2502.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT SARATOGA CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church, on Sunday, June 14, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. J. C. Yates.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 21

RECALLING GOD'S ACTION

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 4:1, 2, 5-10

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 4:9

I. INTRODUCTION

As we begin this study, we find the people of Israel camped east of the Jordan River, opposite Jericho and the Land of Promise. It is the time of decision, the time for commitment. Forty years of wilderness wandering are behind them. Here, at last, is another opportunity for them to have a homeland of their own, with the offer of a good life for the future.

In preparation for this hour Moses has reminded his people of their relationship to God in the past. At Kadesh-barnea earlier they had opportunity to enter the Land of Promise but did not because of unbelief (Deuteronomy 1:32). Later, apart from the will of God and without the help of God, they attacked the Amorites on their own. But the Amorites chased them to Hormah, and the Israelites fled in panic before the enemy (vv. 41-46). Nevertheless, God kept His covenant with Israel, bringing them through Edom and east of the Dead Sea, providing for them in every time of need. "Remember, remember!" it seems that Moses is saying.

Finally, thirty-eight years after leaving Kadesh-barnea, the people crossed the River Arnon into territory also occupied by Amorites. "Rise ye up, take your journey," God said (2:24), promising to deliver this land into their hands. The promise was kept, the land east of the Jordan from the Arnon northward through Gilead and Bashan, which was east and north of the Sea of Galilee, was captured and was allotted to the tribes of Reuben and Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh (3:12, 13). Thereafter God promised that the land west of the Jordan would also become the possession of Israel. There they would find rest and could realize the promise of God that they would become His people, a great nation, ultimately to bring blessing to the whole world.

In general, Moses reminded his people of all these things, the past as well as the promise for the future. He desired that they be keenly aware of what God had done for them from the time He brought them out of Egypt, so that they would trust Him for the future. More than this, he would impress upon them the necessity of walking in the way of God in order that the purposes He had for them might become reality in the new land they were about to enter.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Memory has been defined as the power to recall things out of the past. It may be things that one has experienced, observed, or learned from others. For example, I can recall many things out of my childhood. This is memory as applied to one's own experience. I also recall some of the things that I learned in school in the first years of my school experience. This is memory as applied to observation, and learning from others. Without the ability to remember there could be no learning.

B. "The memory is a treasurer to whom we must give funds, if we would draw the assistance we need"—Rowe. A storehouse of pleasant memories can be a valuable thing; but, on the other hand, a storehouse of unpleasant memories can be terrible. This is why it is so important that early in life we begin to build a bank of pleasant memories. They will stand us in good stead in the hour of loneliness when we have only our thoughts and memories.

C. The topic of our lesson today is "Recalling God's Action." Moses wanted the Israelites to remember God's blessings to them. He knew that this memory could serve as a motive for continued faithfulness and gratitude. But if they forgot God's blessings they would have no reason for gratitude, and one of the great reasons for faithfulness would be gone. It has been said that the people who forget their past will have to live it over again. The meaning is, of course, that if we do not remember our mistakes and learn from them we are apt to make the same mistakes again.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

In our continuing story o Israel's movements toward th Promised Land, we will stud today how Moses dealt with th new generation of Israelite who were now about to ente that land. Some thirty-eigh years have passed since th events of last Sunday's lesso and now Moses was about t relinquish the leadership of th people to Joshua.—**The Ad vanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Dear Auxiliary Members,

I am so excited as I tell you about the 1981 Session of the Woman's Auxiliary of the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists that will convene with East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina. The Convention theme will be "The Reciprocation of God's Perfect Love." 1 John 4:18, ". . . but perfect love casteth out fear . . ." will be the theme Scripture.

YOUTH NIGHT—Monday, June 29, 7 p.m. The highlight of this program will be the Bible Bowl Quiz. Due to the intelligence of our youth, we have been challenged to change our method of asking questions. Come and find out about this! Meet Mrs. Deborah King, returned missionary from the Philippines, and our song leader. Also, special singing has been planned by a number of our youth.

WOMAN'S CONFERENCE—Tuesday, June 30, 10 a.m. Registration—9:30 a.m. Come meet the morning speaker, Charles Barnard, and his family. Charles is the nephew of Miss Laura Belle Barnard, the first Free Will Baptist missionary in India. Special singing by the McPherson Quartet from Beaverdam church will be featured. The song leader will be Deborah King; pianist, Addie Starnes; and organist, Nina Grace Register. Special singing and testimony time is planned for the afternoon session.

MOTELS—Rockingham, North Carolina.

LUNCH—Tuesday, host church.

OPPORTUNITIES OF SERVICE

1. Mission Fund and Registration Fee—When you pay your registration fee ($10) and send in the report form, you become a member of this Conference. If you can, send more than $10; this will help with the officers' expenses, youth work, and so on. We hope to buy a set of microphones and a larger Bible Bowl board. (Our youth are our "home mission" work. God help us not to fail.)

2. General Support for Missionary Candidate, Charles Barnard. Recommended amount, five dollars ($5).

3. Support for Relief of Hunger in the World through the North Carolina Foreign Mission Board in Cooperation with World Vision. Sixty percent of money goes where our missionaries serve and forty percent to other needy places. Information, ideas, and packets about this program will be available at the Conference. Recommended amount, five dollars ($5).

Make your checks payable to the Woman's Auxiliary of the General Conference and earmark them. If possible, send more than the recommended amounts; but above all, send as God directs—He will bless you.

Please, as you read this in your meeting, have prayer for:

1. The Convention and its officers.

2. Our missionaries on the field and those preparing to go.

3. The commitment of our youth into God's service. We need pastors and missionaries.

4. A "thanks prayer" for Charles Barnard and his family. We prayed for a missionary couple to help the Bakers in the Philippines, and God has answered our prayers.

We love and need you. So does God. May He bless you richly.

In His Service,
Margaret Ard, *President*

DIRECTIONS TO EAST ROCKINGHAM FWB CHURCH

The General Conference will meet June 29—July 1, at East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina. For those who need a key to finding the church, it is located on Highway U.S. #1 South. This can easily be done by those traveling #74 from the East by continuing West until you intersect U.S. #1.

For those coming into Rockingham on Highway #220, you will travel until you intersect #74 West. Then take #74 East to U.S. #1. From the intersection of #74 East, you will take a left at the second paved road on the left (this will be the airport road), go 4 blocks and the church is on the left.

If you have any difficulty locating the church, you may call the Rev. Eddie Edwards at his home, phone 997-2996; or at the church, 895-5530.

MOTELS IN ROCKINGHAM

Motels in the Rockingham area are available to any who may be attending the General Conference at East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, June 29—July 1, 1981.

SANDMAN MOTEL AND RESTAURANT
Junction of U.S. #1 and Airport Road
Phone (919) 895-2485

VILLAGE MOTEL
Junction of U.S. #1 and Airport Road
Phone (919) 895-4092

MURRY HILL MOTEL
Junction of U.S. #1 and Airport Road
Phone (919) 997-5521

SARALYNN MOTEL
Junction of Highway #220 and #74
Phone (919) 895-5278

REGAL INN
Phone (919) 997-3336

All motels in the area are reasonable this time of the year and there is little difference in the cost between motels for the same type of service.

Scenes from Founder's Day



The Rev. James Billy Hardee delivers the Founder's Day message. He is President of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home and is from the Pee Dee Conference.



Lane Gray, youngest child in care at the Home, with his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Renfrow of Sims.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended our Founder's Day Service. We enjoyed having each of you with us and hope you will come again soon. We would also like to extend our special thanks to everyone who helped make it such a success by their gifts of time, talents, commodities, and monies.



Margaret Dement, Angie Nichols and Sandra Eason sing during the service.



Vickie Shackles, Sonya Holder and Kathy Steadman also sing! These ladies are all houseparents for the Home.



The Junior Choir as led by Kathy Steadman.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

Ted W. Engstrom, Executive Director of World Vision, writes, "We in World Vision, Inc., the United States arm of World Vision International, are grateful to our many friends in this country who have joined us in making this work possible. For 30 years World Vision has been a partner with people like you, reaching out to a hurting world. Won't you join with us as we continue this work in Christ's name?"

Create in us a sensitivity not only for needs of the poor and oppressed in other lands, but also for those in our own neighborhoods who are in need—physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Help us to place others before ourselves and to serve instead of always being served.

We take so much for granted. Teach us to be more appreciative of all that we have; for in comparison to the hungry, we are abundantly rich.

And finally, it is our deepest desire to see the world as your blessed Son saw it; in doing so, may our hearts be broken with the things that broke His heart. Amen.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

Tuesday's lunch will be provided by the local church. All other meals will be the responsibility of each individual. The local church will provide a list of recommended restaurants or eating establishments.

Conference officers will be elected at this session of the General Conference.

Cape Colony Mission to Have Revival Services

Revival services will be held June 15 through June 19, at Cape Colony Free Will Baptist Mission, Edenton, North Carolina, at 7:45 p.m. The Rev. Dale Albertson of Wilson will be the guest evangelist. There will be visiting singers. Everyone is invited to attend.

Abounding Aliveness

(Continued from Page 5)

Paul said in Philippians 4:13 that he could do all things through Christ who strengthens him. So like Paul, if we would look to God, we could really use our strength to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord. We must live our lives so others will see Christ in us and want His love in their hearts. In order to have this love, we must let the Holy Spirit lead and guide us in our daily lives.

So in conclusion today let's remember to let our light shine so others will see God's love in us. Let's work toward loving our fellowman more every day. Let's hold our heads up and spread God's Word to everyone we meet, to win others to Christ. Then we will be willing to meet Christ when He returns to receive us who have been faithful.

It will be worth it all to hear God say, "You have fought a good fight; welcome to my Kingdom."



The above declamation (written by Rusty Smith) won first place in the YFA Declamation Contest held at the 1981 Youth Convention.

Pastor of the Week

(Continued from Page 9)

the young people in our church. So if you should see a smiling man at the zoo, roller skating or playing baseball (all in a Christian manner, of course) with a bunch of young folks you'll know it's our Dennis.

Although Dennis' schedule is tremendously hectic (he also has a job with Sav-a-Stop Sales, which he's held for eight years), he spends as much time as he can with his family. He is married to the former Abigail Rhodes of Princeton, North Carolina, whom our church is also very fond of. The two of them were generously blessed with a darling baby daughter, Tiffany Gail, on April 9, 1980. Their little family exudes a warmth and closeness that only the good Lord can provide, and it is a rewarding example and inspiration for the members of our church.

Dennis' life began as the son of Mr. and Mrs. Auby Pollock of Princeton, North Carolina. There he graduated from high school and went on to serve two years in Viet Nam.

He was a deacon as well as a Sunday school teacher at Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church in Kenly, North Carolina, where he was licensed in February, 1976, under the Rev. Preston Smith. During this time he attended Mount Olive College in Mount Olive, North Carolina.

On June 12, 1977, he became an ordained minister and began his pastorate at Black Jack Grove. It's indeed difficult to find a preacher like Dennis, and we are thankful that the Lord found him for us. It's hard not to love someone who loves the Lord so much.

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM STATE HOME MISSIONS

by Taylor Hill, Director

Our annual spring banquet will be held on Saturday, June 13, 1981, at 12 noon. The location will be at Don's Seafood Restaurant, Fayetteville, the first building on your right after you cross the river bridge going South on Highway I-95. It's the same location as before; the name has been changed. Food will be served family style. We are in desperate need of missionaries to fill vacancies.

LIBRARY
DUKE UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, N.C. 27706

Graduation: A New Start

Compiled by Robert G. Flood



Graduation is a special time for high school seniors, a time when they are searching for answers to life's toughest questions—

Which job field shall I enter?
Which girl or fellow is the right one for me?
What will a college campus be like?
Where does God fit into all of this?

This book, especially written for graduating seniors, offers insights into finding the answers to these questions and also focuses in on many areas of concern. It's all straight talk with realistic answers. Contemporary Christian leaders have contributed chapters on subjects ranging from campus life and Christian service careers to the real America and the greatness of God.

The twenty chapters are short and easy to digest. Beautiful color photographs are scattered throughout the book. The final chapter is a resource chapter containing information on Christian campus organizations and a select list of goods and services especially for the college-bound.

This beautiful gift volume sells for only $5.95.

Order from
Free Will Baptist Press
P.O. Box 158
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

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The Free Will Baptist

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JUN 23 1981
DURHAM, N.C.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



"HONOR YOUR FATHER"
– AN AXIS UPON WHICH THE WORLD SPINS

Editorial

A Time to Be Sentimental

"Honor your father" is an axis upon which the world spins; it is the grain and fiber of all peoples, cultures, and races. Parent-honoring is often noted in studies of folklore and anthropology; the tradition found strength and verity in the Ten Commandments.

The time was when a son took great pride in following in his father's footsteps. Young boys would dream of growing up to be just like Daddy—so would many little girls. But today this parent-child relationship is often strained—fragile, to say the least.

It is no longer unusual for a father and son to live in the same town and for neither to know the other's address. Many times family members live in the same house but keep different hours so as to avoid talking with one another. (In such cases, true attempts to communicate fail miserably because all parties involved become quite defensive. Parents may voice disapproval of their child's lifestyle; the child in turn becomes offended and refuses to hear their unwanted advice.)

When I see and hear of strained family relationships, I cannot help but remember the many nights Daddy and I read our Bibles and prayed together. He helped me with my Sunday school lesson and always made sure we were in church together. Whenever I was preparing for a contest, Daddy helped me—he studied with me, he stood by me, he was always there. I knew he cared about me—and God. (I still do.) But many are not so fortunate.

As we celebrate Father's Day this year, let us consider our family relationships. Are they what they should be? They are not and cannot be unless God is Lord of our lives.

With this in mind, I'd like to share the following poem:

When Daddy prays, the house gets still,
His voice is slow and deep;
We shut our eyes, the clock ticks loud,
So quiet we must keep.

When Daddy prays, he doesn't use
Those words the preacher does;
There's different things for different days,
But mostly it's for us.

He prays that we may be good boys
And later on good men;
We fellows squirm and think
We'll have no quarrels again.

You'd never think, to look at Dad,
He once had tempers, too;
If Daddy needs to pray,
We youngsters shurly do!

His prayer gets awful long
And hard to understand
So I just wiggle up quite close
And let him hold my hand.

I can't remember all of it,
I'm little yet you see;
But one thing I cannot forget,
My Daddy prays for me.

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 96 Number 2

June 17, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given to the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Monday—Saturday.

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An essay by Tony Sawyer

"REDEEMING THE TIME"



Ephesians 5:16—"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." This verse is a message of hope to me. It says to me that no matter how evil the days, we should not despair, because God is Master of all. He is in control, and He does redeem the time. It also tells me that I cannot just sit idly by and wait for Him to do everything. I, too, must be about my Father's business, helping to redeem the time. I must be earnest and I must be hard-working. I must not turn my back on God and His will, thinking there is no use trying because the days are evil.

True, there is evil around us, just as there has always been. Therefore, what does the Christian do in these evil times? He cannot withdraw from the world. God put us here to help the world, not isolate ourselves from it, but how do we go about helping? First of all, we must have faith in God and try to live as He wants us to live. We have examples in the Bible that can serve as models for us.

The Bible tells of many evil times when God intervened and redeemed the time through people who had faith in Him. Remember Noah? "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith" (Hebrews 11:7). You know the story. The days were evil, and God saw the wickedness of man and was grieved that He had made man. Therefore, He would destroy man. But there was Noah! The world was not completely evil. As so often happens, there was one tiny ray of light in the darkness. All God needs is one little speck of goodness. He can take this bit and use it as yeast to leaven the rest of the world. God saved the race of men through Noah because Noah was good and willing to obey God when he was told to build an ark.

Now think of Moses and his faith. His people were slaves in Egypt and certainly the days were evil for them. They were abused and mistreated by the Egyptians. The situation might have seemed hopeless to them, but not to God. He was preparing Moses to help redeem the time. Think of the faith it took for Moses to cast his lot with his poverty-stricken people after having lived in the Egyptian palace.

Suppose Abraham had not had the faith to obey God. God promised to make him the father of a great nation, but Abraham had to leave home and step out on faith. This was part of God's plan to redeem the world.

Joseph was sold by his own brothers into Egypt, but in the midst of his suffering God was working out a plan for him, a plan by which he would redeem the time. He was able to keep starving people, including his family, alive because he had listened when God spoke through a dream to Pharaoh.

These are just a few of the many events in the Bible when the days were evil and God used man to redeem the time, but they can serve as examples for us, for are we not living in the midst of evil times? Many people do not even believe in God. They laugh at the idea of a higher Being controlling the Universe, and they sneer at those who do believe. They think that they can live as they please, do their own thing, make a mockery of God and get by with it. But they will have to pay the price because God is in control, and His Holy Word tells us that they must believe, obey and be faithful to Him.

The world today is in bad condition, mostly because of poverty and greed. Of those two, greed is by far the worse because much of today's poverty is caused by greed. Many nations have many things going for them, but greed and disbelief in God will tear a nation down. It has happened many times. The Bible tells of occasions when the days were evil among the Israelites because they had strayed away from God. However, each time God raised up some great leader to redeem the time by leading them back to the Lord.

(Continued on Page 14)

CRAGMONT NEWS

submitted by the Rev. John Williams



This second article on Cragmont should show how Cragmont has grown in the number of people who attend during the period of a year. First, let's talk about how the season for operating the camp has been expanded over the years. No doubt in the early years Cragmont's season was limited to the summer months. Primarily the camp was used only for the summer youth conferences. As years went by and conferences were added, more people became interested in coming to Cragmont. Now in 1981, instead of a summer operation, we are involved in an eight-month season. We can do this because of the heat in the main building and dining hall. But the primary reason for this expanded season is the interest that people have shown in spending time at Cragmont. We now have five Youth Conferences, one Ministers' Conference and two Woman's Auxiliary Conferences. In 1979, the Woman's Auxiliary Conference was so large that Cragmont could not accommodate all the women who attended. Arrangements had to be made at a local motel in Black Mountain. In 1980, the women were forced to have two weeks to allow all of them to attend who wanted to come. But it is not just the women's week which was up in attendance; all conferences are having record breaking years.

Along with an increased interest in summer conferences, there are also the very popular weekend retreat groups. Many of our churches are planning a retreat for a weekend at Cragmont.

We are very thankful for the increased interest in Cragmont. More of our Free Will Baptists are realizing that they have a place to come to for a mountain retreat.



(Scenes from the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church retreat the weekend of May 1-3, 1981.)



St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 28

EXPERIENCING GOD'S PRESENCE

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 4: 32-40
Memory Verse: Psalm 16:11

I. INTRODUCTION

In the mind of this lesson writer the title assigned for our study presents us with a paradox. "God is a Spirit," Jesus said (John 4:24). And again we read, "No man hath seen God at any time" (John 1:18). Many have confessed God to be "invisible, eternal, immortal." Now the question is, just how does one *experience* that which is spirit and invisible?

It is true that we may speak at times of experiencing joy, sadness, or some other emotion or sensation. But this is not the same as experiencing the presence of a person. We may think of a person, even visualize him in our mind, but that is not to *experience* his presence. For this we need to exercise our senses, particularly the sense of sight, of hearing, or of touch.

It was in this latter way that ancient Israel experienced God's presence. God chose to reveal Himself. He spoke; He manifested His presence in various ways, and there were those who saw and heard. This was an *objective experience,* the reality of which was substantiated by evidence.

Contrasted with this is the type of experience that some have in mind when they speak of a "personal encounter with God." They do not mean that one actually sees God or hears Him speak. Insofar as the presence of God is concerned, it is more of a feeling than an actual *experience* of that presence. But Israel did not merely have a feeling that God was present; they heard Him and saw the manifestation of His presence with their own eyes.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Deuteronomy 4, from which our lesson is taken, begins with a call to the Children of Israel to obey the Word of the Lord. After this call to obedience (v. 1), Moses then warns the people that they are not to add anything or take anything from the Word of God (v. 2). These same warnings against changing the Word of God are found in Deuteronomy 12:13 and Revelation 22:18, 19. Disobeying the Word of God is bad, but changing the Word to suit your own purposes is even worse.

B. After the warning against changing God's Word, Moses goes on to remind the Israelites about an incident concerning Baal-peor. This story is recorded in Numbers 25:1-9, and we suggest that you read it as a preparation for teaching. While the Israelites were encamped at Shittim, the daughters of Moab enticed the men of Israel to their services and activities in the idolatrous worship of Baal of Peor, which included eating, ritual worship, and prostitution. It was not a matter of isolated cases of defection, but wholesale traffic: "And Israel joined himself unto Baal-peor" (Numbers 25:3). So flagrant and open was the sin that before the very eyes of Moses and the congregation of Israel, an Israelite led a Midianite woman into a tent for immoral purposes.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

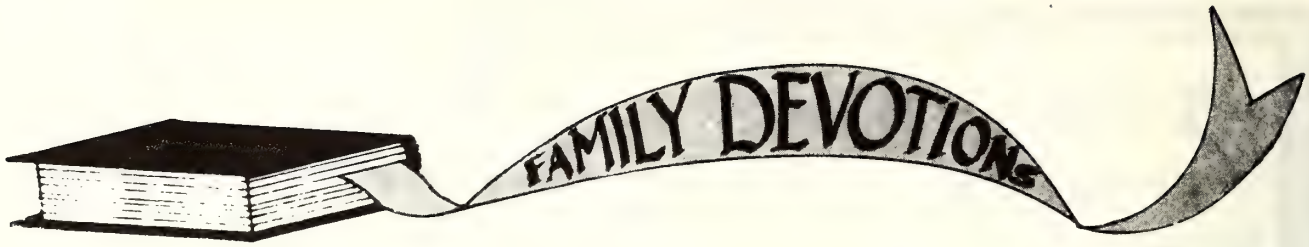
A. Our Bible text records still further the important words of Moses to the Children of Israel in his final counsel with them. These are vital messages of the great leader, much needed before the people entered the Land of Canaan under Joshua. He had recalled for them the wondrous ways God has led and blessed them through their forty years of wandering in the wilderness. He has called them to repentance and obedience. He has warned them of the dire consequences of disobedience as well as the assurance of victory if they obeyed God.

B. In his message Moses is assuring Israel of God's presence with them as they enter the land. That presence had always been with them, even in their repeated disobedience and murmurings—strained, perhaps, but always near. Later, after Moses' death and Joshua's ascendance to leadership, God would reaffirm His presence by saying to Joshua and the people: "Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:9).

C. These precious words have been a comfort to many Christians as they stood on the threshold of some spiritual conquest, about to enter into some challenging circumstance not knowing what lay ahead. This promise of His presence is as real today as it was then.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**



SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Scripture Reading—Galatians 5:13-26

WASHINGTON WEPT HERE

They weren't even Americans—not yet. Just simple colonials.

A weary, frozen, scared, starving band of ordinary people on their way to an extraordinary achievement: *The United States of America!*

If they could last the Valley Forge winter, their cause, freedom, would not be lost.

George Washington wept for them. The pitiful huts, the nonexistent food and the incredible scarcity surrounding them would test any man.

They won! Over winter . . . over the foe . . . over every obstacle that stood in the way of their self-determination.

Now, maybe you think you're just an ordinary person, that nothing you can do would help Freedom's cause too much.

But do it anyhow. Write that letter you never got around to writing. Read. Listen. Learn. Tell. Encourage. But don't ignore Freedom.

You'd be surprised how ordinary people can produce extraordinary results!

PRAYER THOUGHT

And ye shall . . . proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof . . . (Leviticus 25:10).

MONDAY, JUNE 22

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13

WHEN WE FAIL TO LISTEN

Said John M. Drescher in *Meditations for the Newly Married,* "Communication can be called the core of any successful marriage. When partners fail to listen to each other there is deep trouble ahead. Love can survive large problems in the open better than small ones buried and smoldering within."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Charity suffereth long, and is kind . . . (1 Corinthians 13:4).

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

Scripture Reading—Galatians 6:1-7

"LOOK WHAT I DID!"

A man presenting Dr. Jonathan Goforth to a Chicago audience spoke glowingly of him as a brilliant speaker and as a missionary who had accomplished great things.

In acknowledging the praiseful words, Dr. Goforth said, "When I listen to such words of adulation, I am reminded of the story of a proud woodpecker which lighted on a tall dead pine tree and began to peck. Just then a bolt of lightning struck the dead tree and splintered it to smithereens!

"The terror-stricken bird flew and lighted on a nearby tree. Regaining its composure, it looked down at the splintered heap and proudly exclaimed, 'Look what I did!' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world (Galatians 6:14).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 58

TIME TO SPEAK OUT

Dr. Karl Menninger, famed psychiatrist, gave this needed advice: "Ministers who are discouraged with their preaching should not turn away from it and confine themselves to counseling individuals, but should preach more loudly. It is time for clergymen to speak out! People must be told to stop destroying themselves. You should be the evocative minority. People are moved by what you say."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Long ago God gave this directive to His servants, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions . . ." (Isaiah 58:1).

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:1-20

THE PREACHER FADED

Ian Maclaren said, "I never realized the existence of the unseen world as I did one day in the Free Kirk of Drumtochty. The subject of the minister was Jesus Christ and before he had spoken five minutes I was convinced that Jesus was present. The preacher faded from before me and there rose the figure of the Nazarene!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How reassuring is the promise: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

Scripture Reading—Philippians 1

EQUAL JOY

While place we seek or place we shun,
The soul finds happiness in none;

But with a God to guide our way,
'Tis equal joy to go or stay.

PRAYER THOUGHT

For to me to live is Christ (Philippians 1:21).

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Scripture Reading – John 15

THE FRUITS

Kind hearts are the gardens;
Kind thoughts are the roots;
Kind words are the flowers;
Kind deeds are the fruits.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit . . . (John 15:8).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to the-Minute-Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

COMING EVENTS

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 15-19—First Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 15-20—General Youth Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 21—Father's Day

June 21—Superannuation Day in Local Churches

June 22-26—Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 22-27—Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 29—July 4—Youth Frontier Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 29—July 3—Second Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 29-July 1—General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina

Catch a Glimpse!

by Joe Ingram



Whether or not you realize it, what you do in the coming weeks will determine whether some fellow human beings will die of hunger or will eat and live.

If the people in your church catch (from you) a vision of the urgent need for food, if they understand the concern God has for feeding the starving in Jesus' name (Matthew 15:32, 14:16), and if you help them see how they can make a difference between life and death for people in need, then you will have helped to save several dozens of people from starvation and will have made life bearable for hundreds more.

Think of it! Here is a chance to save from death more people in one month than most people will in a lifetime—and to do it as part of a total Christian ministry. What a high privilege!

In addition to saving lives, you will be doing some important things for your church.

—Each person will sense that he is a part of what God is doing in the world.
—Adults will lose some of the frustration of asking, "But what can I do?"
—Teenagers will be glad to be playing an important role in something (for a change!).
—Children will learn for the first time what it means to share sacrificially (not just to share as a way of "playing fair").
—The whole church will be drawn together.

We, at the Foreign Missions office and World Vision, have worked very hard to help give you an opportunity to bring these things to pass in your congregation. We have three programs to offer. These are the **PLANNED FAMINE, THE LOVE LOAF,** and the **MAX PAX** programs.

If you would like more information about these programs, contact the Rev. Joe Ingram by writing to him at Box 979, Goldsboro, NC 27530; or by phoning (919) 734-5946.

Your decision to spearhead one or more of these programs in your church will show that you have a heart for the lost and needy, and a vision for doing something about them.

North Carolina Free Will Baptist WA Convention

Treasurer's Report

End of Fourth Quarter, April 30, 1981

Balance in Bank, January 31, 1981			$4,126.34
Receipts			
General Fund			
Contributions	$ 38.80		
Life Award Fees	10.00		
Promotional Fund (CSF)	111.51		
Per Capita Dues	713.52		
Registration	60.00	$ 933.83	
Denominational Enterprises		15,075.08	
Total Receipts			16,008.91
Total for Which to Account			20,135.25
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		732.75	
Denominational Enterprises		15,075.08	
Total Disbursed			15,807.83
Balance in Bank, April 30, 1981			$ 4,327.42
Banks			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)		$ 1,327.42	
Church Finance Association		3,000.00	
Total		$ 4,327.42	

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemized	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions):			
General Fund	$ 1,694.11		
Taylor Hill, Medical Expense	50.00		
Taylor Hill, Love Gift	235.00	1,979.11	1,979.11
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	263.45		
Mexico	335.00		
Fred Baker	51.28		
India Pastor	80.00		
Palawan Missions	20.26		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	1,988.12		
Telethon	100.00	2,838.11	2,838.11
Central Conference Missions		160.00	160.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	130.34		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	32.00		
College Hall	225.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	150.93		
Books	10.00		
State Project (Chapel Parking Lot)	1,458.12	2,006.39	
Free Will Baptist Children's Home:			
General Fund	465.92		
Clothing	245.00		
Child Support	585.00		
Music Lessons	45.00		
Corelle Ware and Stainless Steel	724.94		
State Project (Media Center)			
Superannuation			
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.			
Building Fund			
Retirement Homes, Inc.			
Life Membership Fees (Children's Hon			
*Christian Service Fund			
Mount Olive College			
Missions			
Children's Home			
Cragmont			
Retirement Homes			
Superannuation			
Totals			

*10 percent retained for Promotional (see Receipts $111.51)

NOTICES

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet Monday, July 13, 1981, at 9:30 a.m., in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, 123 North Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina. All persons having business with the board may meet with us at this time.

Please note the change in the date of our July meeting. Because of the Ministers' Conference, this meeting will be held the Monday after the second Sunday in July, not the Monday after the third Sunday as is customary.

W. H. Willis, *Secretary*

The Rev. Larry J. Crumpler Jr., Route 2, Box 293-A, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, wishes that in the future all correspondence be addressed to him as Joe Crumpler, at the same address. His mail is getting confused with that of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler Sr., Route 2, Box 271, Pikeville, North Carolina 27863. Joe Crumpler asks that all denominational enterprises take notice, as he is receiving mail from them sometimes under two different names. To simplify record keeping, his checks are being changed accordingly. Joe Crumpler will continue to sign all legal

1,275.00	3,343.86	
	152.00	152.00
	2,202.12	2,202.12
	1,364.85	1,364.85
	25.00	25.00
223.03		
223.03		
167.27		
167.27		
111.52		
111.52	1,003.64	1,003.64
	$15,075.08	$15,075.08

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, *Treasurer*

documents by his legal name, Larry Joseph Crumpler Jr.

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet on June 30, at 10 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Press. Anyone having business with the council is asked to attend this meeting.

Royce Reynolds, *Secretary*

TO CHURCH CLERKS

Please make every effort possible to include the number of men in the Layman's League of your church in your State Convention report.

We need this information.

Paul Beaman
Secretary of State Layman's League Board

TO LAYMAN'S LEAGUE PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES

Please be sure that your church clerk is informed of the number of men on your membership roll.

Our State Convention Yearbook does not include Layman's League information from some churches that do have a Layman's League.

Paul Beaman
Secretary of State Layman's League Board

General Conference Is Approaching



Shanna, Jackie, Jeffrey, and Charles Barnard

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, 419 Airport Road, Rockingham, North Carolina, June 29 through July 1, 1981.

On March 14, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnard were approved as missionary candidates to the Philippines. Charles is the nephew of Miss Laura Belle Barnard, the first Free Will Baptist missionary to India. They will be joining the Baker family in the work there. The Barnard family will be at the Conference this year. Come and meet them.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Bobby Brown has resigned as pastor of Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church as of May 24, after 4 years of service and will be available to supply, hold revivals, or will consider pastoring any church to which the Lord shall lead Him to go. If you would like to contact him, write Route 1, Box 266-A, Cove City, North Carolina 28523; phone (919) 633-3792. He is an ordained minister in good standing with the Eastern Conference.

The Rev. Gurney R. Chase announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. Any church desiring his services may reach him by writing to him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501 or phoning 523-3429.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Beaufort County) is in need of a pastor for first and third Sundays. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Billy Gurkin. Mr. Gurkin can be reached by writing Route 5, Box 407, Greenville, North Carolina 27834, phone 758-2676 after 6 p.m.

NEWS & NOTES

GROUNDBREAKING SERVICES FOR VERONA CHURCH



Groundbreaking services were held for the erection of a new church on Sunday, May 3, at Verona Free Will Baptist Church near Jacksonville, North Carolina. Present at that service was the only living charter member, Mrs. Norman Foy. Mr. and Mrs. Foy organized Verona church in 1944.

In June of 1978, the members agreed to raise $50,000 before beginning construction. This has been done. The pastor, the Rev. Boyd Shook, sketched the plans and is the general contractor. He is being assisted by the building committee—James Davis, Darl Ottaway and Othel Taylor—and the Board of Deacons—Lacy Batchelor, Edsel Ottaway and Othel Taylor.

The Revelators to Be At Ormondsville Church

The Jerry Taylor family, better known as the Revelators, will present the program "Down By the Creek Bank," followed by special music on June 28, at 7 p.m., at Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden, North Carolina. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Jack Mayo is pastor.

Graduates Honored at Palmer Memorial Church

May 24 was observed as Graduates' Day at Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Garner, North Carolina. When the graduates entered the vestibule, they were surprised to see an easel displaying their pictures and ribbons of their school colors. The communion table featured



Front—Teresa Strickland; back (left to right)—Denise Depree, Thomas Tew, and Tammy Wright

a beautiful flower arrangement highlighting their school colors given by the pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Dewey Boling.

The graduates were escorted in by Mrs. Boling at the beginning of the morning worship service, while the music, "Pomp and Circumstance," was being played. Mr. Boling presented each graduate a Bible with his name engraved on it, a gift from the church. His sermon for the day was entitled, "How to Obtain the Fulness of Life." He reminded them that in Jesus Christ they could receive all of the things most important in life, achieve any goal set in life—but that their priorities would have to be right and their lives would have to be lived in the light and love of their Saviour, Jesus Christ.

At the close of the service Mr. Boling called the graduates and their parents to the altar for a prayer of thanksgiving and dedication. This was a very inspiring service.

Afterwards, Mr. and Mrs. Boling treated the graduates to a lunch at the restaurant of their choice. This time of fellowship was enjoyed by the graduates and the Bolings.

On May 31, the graduates were given a reception after the evening service by their parents. The fellowship hall was decorated with a beautiful flower arrangement and pictures of the graduates were displayed.

It has been a policy with Mr. and Mrs. Boling for many years that they do something special for graduates. This was their first year at Palmer Memorial church, but they look forward to many more times such as this one. They began their work at Palmer Memorial church on March 15.

Youth Sunday Observed At Sandy Plain Church

Youth Sunday was observed recently at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church near Pink Hill, North Carolina. The youth were in charge of all Sunday school offices and the teaching of each class. It was a very warm and rewarding service.

On Sunday evening, the program "Down by the Creek Bank" was presented by the youth, and each child in the church was asked to take part. This program was based on the Bible and was a great inspiration to everyone. At the close of the service, the pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee, gave an altar call.

The youth director is Mrs. Billy Thigpen.

The Rev. Bass Mitchell Assumes New Pastorate

Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, is pleased to announce that the Rev. Bass Mitchell is their new minister. Mr. Mitchell and his wife, Debbie, have quickly endeared themselves to the church community.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell came to Core Creek church from Durham, where Mr. Mitchell was attending Duke Divinity School and Mrs. Mitchell was working in a university office. They were moved by members of the church into a newly refurbished parsonage.

Before attending Duke, Mr. Mitchell completed his studies at Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College, and engaged in further study at Florida State University. Mr. Mitchell has been a contributor to THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, and has stimulated interest in in-depth Bible study among the members of Core Creek church. The Mitchells have also shown their superior musical talents, with Bass singing and Debbie at the piano.

Core Creek church is proud to have Bass and Debbie Mitchell as part of the church family and they rejoice that God has blessed them through their lives.

(Continued on Page 14)

The Hopper Brothers and Connie to Perform



The Hopper Brothers and Connie

The AFC Youth of the Tarboro First Free Will Baptist Church, will sponsor the Hopper Brothers and Connie in concert with the Watchmen Quartet, on Thursday, June 18, at 8 p.m., in the C. B. Martin Middle School Auditorium. Advance tickets are $3.50, and at the door $4. Children's tickets will be one-half price for ages 12 and under. For more information call 823-7723 or 823-8996.

Annual Ministers' Conference

Cragmont Assembly Black Mountain, North Carolina

July 20-23, 1981

Ministers and their wives are urged to attend for a time of spiritual blessings.

(Churches are asked to help their pastor financially in the amount of $125.)

News from the

Children's Home

by Stewart Humphrey

HOLY COMMUNION AT MEMORIAL CHAPEL



Cynthia, Harold and Lori stand before the Lord's table breaking a loaf prepared much the same way it was in biblical times. The service was a special blessing to all of us.

On Maundy Thursday the staff and children gathered in Memorial Chapel to celebrate Holy Communion. Our pastor, the Rev. Bruce Steadman, led us in a corporate service of worship based on a play written by a friend. As we read and experienced some of the feelings the disciples might have had that night in the Upper Room, our hearts were moved to a deeper appreciation of the suffering and death of our Lord.

Memorial Chapel is the first place many of our children have ever heard of the glad tidings of our Lord's death and Resurrection for sin. It is there that many make first time decisions. The ministry of Memorial Chapel reaches the lives of more than 200 people as it seeks to minister to the families and children we serve.

HOUSEPARENTS WANTED

Mature Christian couples, 21 years of age or older, to live in and to care for 10-12 childen; salary and good benefits. Contact the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey by phoning (919) 235-2161; or by writing Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

Happenings from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

OUR NEWEST FAMILY MEMBERS



Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stocks have joined our Retirement Homes' family. They are from Pitt County and attend Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. Clarence Bowen is their pastor. Mr. and Mrs. Stocks will live in the George P. Best house.



Board members, A. Graham Lane, Clyde Cox; and Executive Director, J. Stewart Humphrey, welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Stocks to campus. Mrs. Gertrude Ballard came by to get her mail and meet her new neighbors.

Our retirement family has grown to seven members now. They are all well. Pray for our retirees and for our Retirement Homes program.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Cape Fear Conference Ministers to Meet

The Cape Fear Conference ministers and their families will meet at Eagles' Nest for an afternoon of fellowship and an old-fashioned pig-picking, on Saturday, June 27, from 3-8 p.m.

The charge will be $3.50 for adults and $2 for children. Softball and volleyball equipment will be furnished.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper and Dr. Michael Pelt will present a short review of progress on the development of the four-year program at Mount Olive College.

All ministers of the Cape Fear Conference are invited to attend.

President Raper to Speak at Gethsemane Church

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, on Sunday, June 21, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit, President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Dan Jordan.

News Briefs

Fall Semester

The 1981-82 academic year will begin August 29. There is still time for students to enroll and financial aid is available for qualified students up to the full level of their need. Academic scholarships and special grants are also available to those who meet the specified criteria. One of the objectives of Mount Olive College is to assure that no worthy and qualified student is denied an education for financial reasons. The maximum amount of the "Church-College Grant for Free Will Baptist Students" has increased from $500 to $700 ($350 from the church and $350 from the College).

For information on Summer School or Fall Semester, please contact the Admissions Office: telephone 919/658-2502.

The Four-Year Program

In keeping with the request of the State Convention, Mount Olive College is proceeding with plans for the development of a four-year program. Decisions with reference to the curriculum, library, faculty, physical plant and financial affairs are all being made in the light of the requirements for senior colleges. The five-year (1979-84) gift support required to reach this goal is $7.5 million. Our schedule is for the first four-year class to enter in 1982; the junior year will be added in 1984 and graduation will be in 1986.

College Hall

One of the absolute requirements for a four-year-program is a physical education building, College Hall, which can also serve as a convention center for Free Will Baptists. The estimated cost for this project is $2.5 million. Our planned schedule is as follows:

April, 1981—We reached $1 million in gifts and pledges.

Summer, 1981—Arrange a loan for the project. (Negotiations are now underway with a bank.)

September, 1981—Reach $1.5 million in gifts and pledges. (A condition for final approval of a bank loan.)

October, 1981—Award contracts!

By December, 1982—Reach $2.5 million in gifts and pledges.

In 1983—Occupy building. (Estimated construction time is 18 months.)

By 1988—Complete payment for the building!

Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference To Meet

Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference will meet June 22-26. Have you registered for the conference yet? Time is getting close!

If you cannot stay the entire week, visit us during the day. Bring your church family and join us for the night services! Let us know when you plan to come.

Our day will begin with breakfast at 8 a.m.; devotions at 9:15 a.m.; and music at 9:30 a.m. At 2:20 p.m., Bible study will be directed by Rudene Kennedy from Cabin Free Will Baptist Church in Duplin County. The music directors will be Nina Grace Register and Margaret Ard. Other activities and features will be crafts with Hazel Stilley, plenty of good food, rest, and recreation.

The day will be completed with worship services each evening at 8 p.m. The Monday services will be conducted by the Rev. Bob Yates, pastor of Mount Zion church, Pamlico County; Tuesday, the Rev. C. H. Overman, pastor of First

Turn the Page

Church of Kinston in Lenoir County. Wednesday's speaker will be the Rev. Bass Mitchell, pastor of Core Creek church in Craven County, with Jack and Julie Birchard presenting a concert on the marimba and piano.

Thursday will be Missions Day! Dean Kennedy will represent Home Missions and we are expecting Charles and Jackie Barnard, our new missionaries to the Philippines, to visit the camp. The Rev. Joe Ingram, Foreign Missions Director, will conduct the evening worship services.

About 9 a.m. Wednesday morning, we will board Rock of Zion's church bus, "Hallelujah Chariot," with the Rev. Ray Williamson, for our day off campus. We will cross the river on the ferry at Minnesott Beach and go to Morehead for lunch, and a guided tour of the North Carolina Coast Guard Station.

I ask that you pray for the success of our conference. I invite each of you to visit us during this special week of study, fellowship, and worship.

Happy Taylor

"Redeeming the Time"

(Continued from Page 3)

Today the world, including the United States, faces evil days, and this turning away from God can lead to our destruction. But it does not have to happen.

God, because He loved us so much, planned for our redemption by sending His Son to die on the Cross for us. However, for God's plan to work, we have to believe, confess our sins, and ask for forgiveness. Then we must continue to be faithful to the Lord. Also we have to forget about spending all our time and energy trying to gain worldly possessions and success. Because if we obey God, He will provide all our needs. It is sometimes hard to believe that God will take care of us. But remember Noah; the Lord saved Noah because Noah believed in Him. If we believe in the Lord, He will lead us in the right way also.

We know that God has a perfect plan for redeeming the time, but what about us? As Christians, do we not have a responsibility toward our fellowman? Ephesians 5:15 tells us to "walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise." How do we obey this command? First, we must be faithful. To be faithful means being absolutely obedient to the commands of God. Faith is a gift of God and is essential to salvation. Second, we must be obedient, which means being submissive to the command of authority, in this case the authority of God. Third, Bible reading is absolutely necessary. Only through Bible reading can we "walk not as fools, but as wise." Fourth, there is prayer. Prayer is humble and earnest communion with God for the purpose of seeking some blessing, for confessing our sins, and for thanking God. We should pray with sincere faith and devotion to God. Also, we must spread the Word of God. We must tell other people about Him and His plan for redeeming the time. Not only must we tell others of God and His great love for us, we must also show them by our lives. Our lives must not give in to the evil around us. We must live in such a way that others will see Jesus in us. Only in this way can we live wisely and help to redeem the time.

Our entire responsibility in this matter is summed up in the Scripture already quoted, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15, 16).

Tony Sawyer is the son of Roy and Peggy Sawyer of Columbia, North Carolina. A member of Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, Tony was declared winner of the YFA Essay Contest at the 1981 State Youth Convention earlier this year.

News and Notes

(Continued from Page 11)

Robert's Grove Church Gets New Pastor

The Rev. Jerry Allen of Mount Olive, North Carolina, has accepted the pastorate at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina. He will be moving into the parsonage on Saturday, June 20, and will begin his pastoral work on July 1.

FOR SALE

ONE CROSS—nearly new. I cannot carry it and keep up with the world and its crowd.

ONE TALENT—new, except slightly shelf worn; it has been laid away for several years.

ONE FIVE-PIECE SET OF ARMOUR—all pieces in good shape, only need polishing.

ONE BUNDLE OF CHRISTIAN OPPORTUNITIES—one, that of going to church every Sunday; another, the opportunity of being a soul winner. I seldom use these opportunities, so have decided to let them go with the sale.

ONE BADLY USED CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE—buyer may be able to repair it if carefully handled.

The above mentioned items are in the basement of my house, located at the corner of Careless Avenue and Neglect Street.

Signed,
Alotta Christians

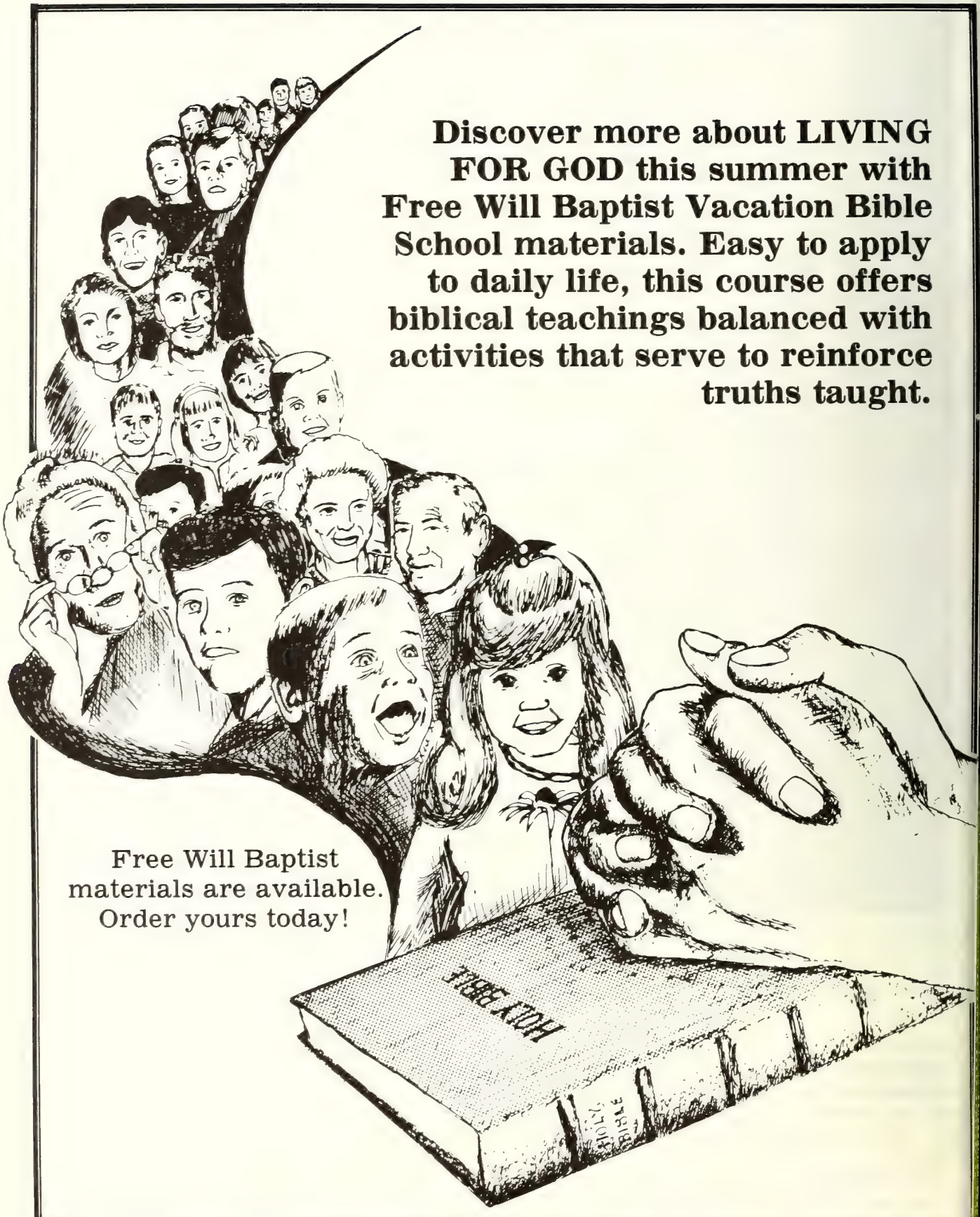


It's supposed to be rewarding.

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists designated Sunday, June 21, Father's Day, as "Superannuation Day" in our churches again this Convention year.

You are urged to receive a special offering on this day or to send a special gift from your treasurer. Send your gifts to the North Carolina Board of Superannuation, Box 474, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

Also, remember to support the Superannuation program with your prayers and gifts throughout the year.

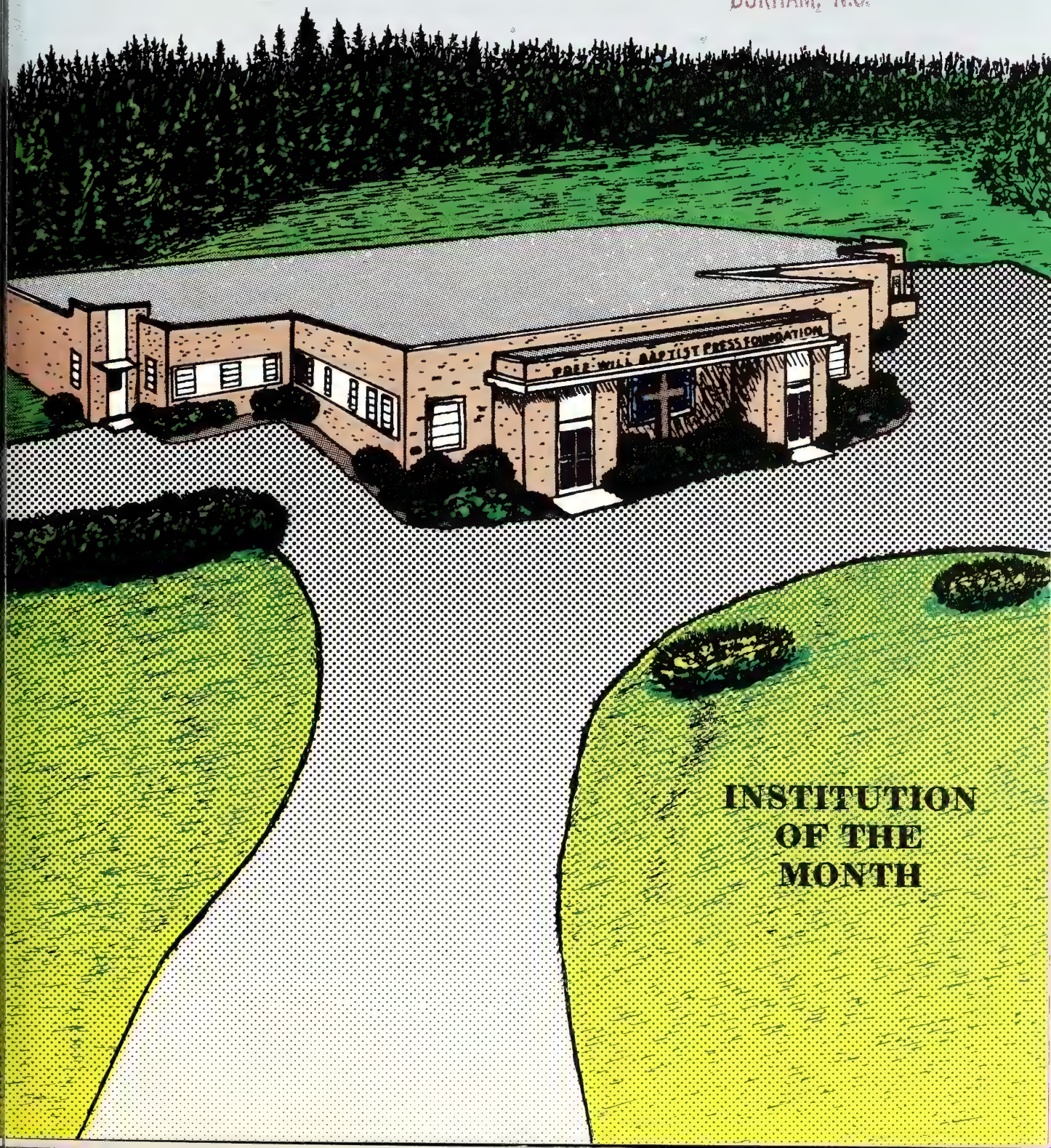

Discover more about LIVING FOR GOD this summer with Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School materials. Easy to apply to daily life, this course offers biblical teachings balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.
Free Will Baptist materials are available. Order yours today!
HOLY BIBLE

F857

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
JUN 29 1981
DURHAM, N.C.



INSTITUTION OF THE MONTH

A Stroll Down Memory Lane

In my mind, I can see the Rev. R. K. Hearn seated in his Fremont, North Carolina, office working on *The Free Will Baptist Advocate.* (The year was 1891). His work was honorable; it was "devoted to Religion, Literature, News and General Interest." The September 29 issue is nearly ready for the press, but wait—he has a small area to fill; an advertisement for a free $10 suit will work fine. Whew! Volume 1 is ready at last.

By the time the November 20, 1892, issue was being prepared, readers could learn all about Union Meetings and what was happening in country parishes. Soul-stirring sermons were located on Page 1; but if you needed to know who the country sheriff or coroner was, all you had to do was to look at Page 2. A long article entitled "Handshaking" yielded insight into an ever present problem: "A good shake of the hand has been to many a lonely soul a veritable means of grace. The trouble with not a few of our churches and young people's meetings is their lack of sociability." Tucked away at the back of the publication were ads for Kennedy's Medical Discovery ("you know whether you need it or not"), $1.50 Boston-made button boots, and (my favorite) "Cool Music Books—music which helps one wonderfully to endure extremes of weather, hot or cold." The most expensive of these gems sold for $1. Oh! by the way, you could get volumes of classics, popular dance, Sabbath-day, operatics, or "just good ole songs we used to sing."

A year's subscription to *The Free Will Baptist* cost $1, in 1915. Elder E. T. Phillips was editor at the time; and the Rev. C. J. Harris, Mrs. Alice Lupton, and Dr. E. L. St. Claire were regular contributors. In the February 24 edition, I found a classic written by Dr. St. Claire. During a recent trip to Cuba, he had been "privileged" to ride a hydroplane (or, in his words, "a flying boat"). Of this experience he wrote: "I tried to hire the Lord to answer my prayer. I told the Lord if He would let me get back safe to land, I would never try to fly again till my wings began to sprout and were full grown: and I was not in a hurry for wings . . . About that time I landed and I was so glad that I forgot to say 'amen.' No! I will not try to fly again till my anatomy has undergone certain changes . . . ."

By 1947, subscription rates had climbed to $1.50 a year. Sermons filled *The Free Will Baptist's* pages, but news from denominational enterprises was beginning to come to the forefront. The paper no longer carried advertisements or train schedules—once important features. (Today they add novelty!)

As I continue my walk down memory lane, I happen upon a more recent edition. I can almost hear the Rev. C. H. Overman's voice when I read his January 10, 1968, editorial: "This issue of *The Free Will Baptist* will be the last number to be printed at 204 East Avenue in Ayden . . . As we look forward to

(Continued on Page 14)

Cover Illustration by Jerry Goff

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Volume 96 Number 24
June 24, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $6.76; two years, $12.48; four years, $23.92 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $6.50, $12, and $23 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice-President; Robert May, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Dewey C. Boling, and Willis Wilson.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Acting Editor of Literature.**

Institution of the Month

SPREADING THE GOSPEL THROUGH THE PRINTED PAGE

A History of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation

THE Free Will Baptist Press Foundation stands today as "a symbol of dedicated labor and Christian service" (Tommy Manning), for from its inception, it has striven to serve the Lord effectively. Although the early years of the institution were plagued with trials and difficulties, the Foundation has grown into a successful business.

Since the records of the Foundation were destroyed by a fire in 1913, a complete history is not available; but important historical data has been gleaned from aged men of the denomination; from the research of Mr. Reuben Cherry, who while a student at Mount Olive College in 1959, made an exhaustive study of existing materials; and from other sources.

Locations

The institution began, with the passing of a simple resolution by the General Conference of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina in 1873. As a result of this action, the Rev. E. R. Ellis became the first editor. He began publication of a weekly paper, *The Free Will Baptist Advocate,* from the newly established office in Fremont, North Carolina.

Difficult years followed and the establishment experienced times of financial difficulty, to the point that operation had to be suspended on several occasions. In an attempt to keep the movement from dying, the office was moved from place to place in North Carolina; this was done primarily because of existing economic factors. From Fremont, it went to Toisnot (now Elm City), back to Fremont, to New Bern, to Snow Hill (1889), to Ormondsville (1891), to Ayden, (1895). Although the Foundation has remained in Ayden ever since, it has occupied several locations. The present address is 811 North Lee Street, where the Foundation has been housed since December, 1967.

Administrations

Just as there have been many changes in the location of the Foundation, there have also been a number of changes in administrative personnel. The Revs. L. E. Johnson and R. H. Holland seem to have followed Mr. Ellis in charge of the operation, but it is not certain whether they held joint editorship and managerial responsibility. After the business failed under its previous administrators, the Rev. R. K. Hearn was given the loan of the equipment by the Conference. The terms of the loan to Mr. Hearn were "for one year and as much longer as may be thought proper provided he publish in the interests of the Free Will Baptists."

In 1889, a printing company was formed; the Rev. W. L. Bilbro became editor. The Rev. J. M. Barfield replaced him the next year. In 1898, Elder E. T. Phillips became editor, a post which he held until the spring of 1916. The financial condition at this time was such that all employees resigned except the general manager, the Rev. J. C. Griffin.

The Rev. T. B. Mellette was employed as editor to succeed Mr. Phillips. He served throughout the summer, until Mr. C. K. Dunn took office on September 1, 1916, as editor and general manager. Mr. Dunn remained as administrative head of the institution until his retirement in 1952. However, in 1921, his duties became so heavy that Elder Phillips was induced to return as editor, while Mr. Dunn remained as general manager.

The Rev. I. J. Blackwelder succeeded Mr. Phillips as editor in 1934. The Rev. R. B. Spencer became editor upon Mr. Blackwelder's resignation, after he had served for one year. When Mr. Spencer retired in 1952, the Rev. F. B. Cherry was made editor, a post he held until July 1, 1954. At that time, the Rev. J. O. Fort succeeded Mr.

Turn the Page



Cherry. In 1959, Mr. Fort was given the title of manager-editor, in which capacity he served until September 1, 1960.

The Rev. N. B. Barrow succeeded Mr. Fort as manager and the Rev. C. H. Overman was made editor. Mr. Barrow held the position as manager during the controversy which affected Free Will Baptists in North Carolina. He was succeeded in September, 1966, by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, the present manager. Following the resignation of Mr. Overman, Mr. Tommy Manning was made editor; he served in that post until August 20, 1980. Mrs. Janie Jones Sowers became acting editor at that time.

Name Changes

The name of the institution has undergone a number of changes over the years. The first name we find recorded is The Free Will Baptist Advocate, the same as the weekly paper it published. When the establishment was moved to Toisnot, the institution became known as the Toisnot Transcript; and after financial failure in Toisnot, the establishment returned to Fremont where the original name was reassumed.

After the fire in 1913, a corporation was formed and a charter was issued in the name o the Free Will Baptist Publishing Company. The action authorizing this change was taken by th First Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists i September, 1913. In 1914, the name was changed to The Ayden Free Will Baptist Printing Company.

In 1926, a change was made in both the nam and the corporation. The name was changed t Free Will Baptist Press and it was chartered under the laws of the state of North Carolina as a nonprofit corporation. The control of the institution was placed in the hands of Free Will Baptis Conferences, Conventions, Churches, and in dividuals who purchased shares of stock. At th annual stockholders' meeting, a board of direc tors was elected whose responsibility it was t direct the activities of the institution. Then, i 1965, in keeping with federal laws, the corpora tion was changed to a nonprofit membership cor poration and the word, "Foundation" was adde to the name. There are no stockholders now, onl memberships, and only Free Will Baptist Con ventions, Conferences, Unions, Churches, an

Free Will Baptist organizations can hold membership in the corporation. The membership meets annually at the institution and elects a board of directors, consisting of seven members, whose responsibility it is to direct the activities of the corporation. Members of the board at the present time are: the Revs. David W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice President; Robert May, Secretary; James B. Hardee; C. Felton Godwin; Dewey C. Boling; and Willis Wilson.

History of Publications

As stated earlier, the first publication of the institution was a weekly church paper. There are no accurate records available as to the date when the Foundation began publishing Sunday school quarterlies; however, it seems that publication began in 1906. This date corresponds favorably with statements from elderly persons who have said that this endeavor began during the early years of the present century. Existing information suggests that there were at least four Sunday school publications in 1906: *The Senior Quarterly, The Junior Quarterly, The Primary Quarterly,* and *Acme Picture Lesson Cards.* Today, the Sunday school literature program has grown so that it embraces literature for all age groups from cradle roll through adults, including teachers' guides for all age groups and workbooks or activity materials for the preschool through junior departments. Materials for Sunday school record-keeping are also printed and supplied by the institution.

Free Will Baptist League materials were first published in 1953, the literature of such comprising quarterlies for juniors, intermediates, and seniors. To date, the program has been revised and two quarterlies are printed: *The Young Leaguer* and *The Adult Leaguer.*

The Foundation has published several hymnbooks through the years, the latest being a hardback edition published in 1958 entitled *Free Will Baptist Hymnal.* In recent years, the institution has published books of denominational interest; for example, *This Is Your Church, An Introduction to Original Free Will Baptists, Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,* and others.

Four Areas of Operation

1. Bible and Bookstores

The bookstores offer "everything in religious merchandise," ranging from books to church pews. At present, the Foundation operates four branch bookstores in addition to the one located in the Foundation building in Ayden. The first such branch store was opened in April, 1967, in Smithfield and is known as the Smithfield Bible and Bookstore. This store is located at 122 South Third Street. Mrs. Grace Jones is the manager.

The second branch store was opened April 14, 1969, in New Bern and is known as the New Bern Bible and Bookstore. Formerly located at 213 Middle Street, the store suffered a total loss in a fire which ravaged nearly a whole block of New Bern on February 22, 1975. The store is now located on 315 Middle Street, with Mrs. Ellen Dixon serving as manager.

The third branch store was opened August 10, 1970, in Wilson and is known as the Wilson Bible and Bookstore. The store now operates at 1101 Downing Street (Five Points); Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton is the manager.

The Kinston Bible and Bookstore opened September 25, 1978. Managed by Mrs. John (Happy) Taylor, the store is located at 123 North Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina.

The Ayden Bible and Bookstore is managed by Mrs. Dorothy Crouch; and coordinator for all the branch stores is Mrs. Elizabeth Hill, who has her office in the Foundation Building.

2. Publishers

The Foundation publishes a weekly religious magazine, *The Free Will Baptist;* graded Sunday school literature and League quarterlies; *Devotion,* a program book for the woman's auxiliary; youth program books; and Vacation Bible School materials. *Devotion,* youth materials, and Vacation Bible School materials are printed annually.

The annual *Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* has been published by the Foundation since 1976.

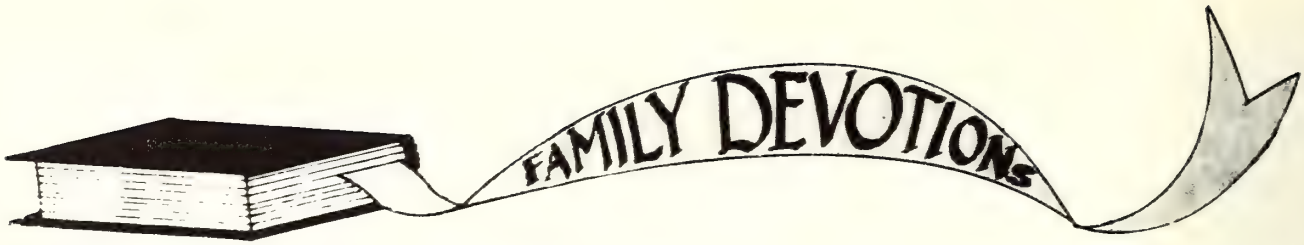
3. Job Printers

The Foundation renders service to churches by printing such items as minutes, posters, blanks, letterheads, envelopes, pamphlets, books, and so forth.

4. Suppliers

The Foundation represents several companies: Imperial Woodworks, Inc. of Waco, Texas; A. & H. Art & Stained Glass Company of Harmony, North Carolina, manufacturers of art, stained, and decorative glass work and steel frames; Glasstech Plastic, Inc. of Roswell, Georgia, manufacturers of baptismal pools and steeples; Frederick's of Goldsboro, dealers for Story and Clark pianos and Hammond organs; Oak Hall vestment manufacturers; and others.

Dedicated to serving Christ in every area, the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. endeavors to promote unity for a singular cause. This we do by spreading the gospel, the story of God's love for all, through the printed page. From its beginning in 1873, to the present, 1981, the aim has been (and is) to serve better with each passing year. May God be praised for His manifold blessings!



SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:1-15

A FRENZY OF PRIDE

In *Prayer and Modern Man,* J. Ellul said, "Prayer for society puts the latter in its proper place. In spite of all its strength and technical successes, our great society is a poor little commonplace reality. Without persistent prayer this grandiose society will be nothing but a frenzy of pride and suicide."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much* (James 5:16).

MONDAY, JUNE 29

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 10

ACTS SPEAK LOUDER

After spending four months with David Livingstone, Henry M. Stanley, journalist, wrote, "I grant you he is not an angel, but he approaches to that being as near as the nature of a living man will allow."

Later, in speaking of his conversion, Stanley said, "It was not Livingstone's preaching that converted me. It was Livingstone's living!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you* (John 13:15).

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

Scripture Reading—John 20:19-31

MODERN MAN AND THE SUPERNATURAL

Dr. John McIntyre, a physicist, said, "A myth abroad in our time goes something like this: Back in the past, before man understood the world around him, he explained the unknown in terms of supernatural events. But now, *modern man* has outgrown the need for the supernatural. As science has more and more explained the physical world in natural terms, the need for the supernatural has disappeared.

"Until a few years ago my feelings about Christianity were vaguely in accord with the myth. But then I had opportunity to study the Bible in a serious way. I found to my astonishment that a scientific training was not a hindrance but rather an asset to understanding the Bible and believing what it said. Such a study of the Bible led me to realize that the message of the Bible deals with man's rebelling against God and God's method of reconciliation with man effectuated by Christ's atoning death on the Cross. It was this feature of the Christian gospel, coupled with the knowledge of my wickedness in God's sight and my need for a Redeemer, that convinced me of the truth of the Christian message: Only through Jesus Christ are men reconciled to God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

I strongly urge you, therefore, to weigh the claims of Jesus Christ. This can be done, for example, by reading the Gospel of John, which was written that "you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life through his name" (John 20:31).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Scripture Reading—Philippians 3

UPWARD AND ONWARD

Lt. John A. Macready of the Army service set a new altitude record when he reached a height never before attained by an airplane pilot to that date. In a test flight over Dayton, Ohio, he pushed his plane to 40,800 feet above sea level—nearly eight miles. Macready used oxygen above 20,000 feet, but near the ceiling of the flight, when ice accumulated in the oxygen tube, he had to resort to an emergency tank that he carried strapped to his body.

"Upward and onward" must ever be the motto of God's children.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Long ago Paul said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

THURSDAY, JULY 2

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

THE PSALM OF AN ADDICT

An unknown addict, lost in the dream world of heroin, wrote the following completely hopeless psalm:

"King Heroin is my shepherd. I shall always want. He maketh me to lie down in gutters. He leadeth me beside the troubled waters. He destroyeth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of wickedness for effort's sake. Yea, I shall walk through the valley of poverty and will fear all evil for thou, Heroin, art with me. Thy needle and capsule try to comfort me. Thou strippest my table of groceries in the presence of my family. Thou robbest my head of reason. My cup of sorrow runneth over. Surely Heroin addiction shall stalk me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the House of the Damned forever!"

The above psalm was found by a Long Beach, California,

police officer in a telephone booth. On the back of the card was written this postscript:

"Truly this is my psalm. I am a young woman twenty years of age, and for the past year and one-half, I have been wandering down the nightmare path of the junkie. I want to quit taking dope and try but I can't. Jail didn't cure me. Nor did the hospitalization help me for long. The doctor told my family it would have been better, and indeed kinder, if the person who first got me hooked on dope had taken a gun and blown my brains out! And I wish to God she had. My God, how I wish it!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Him that is weak in the faith, receive ye . . . (Romans 14:1).

FRIDAY, JULY 3

Scripture Reading – Joel 2:1-11

THE DAY OF THE LORD

Early one February morning in 1970, the little town of Val d'Isere in France became the scene of disaster and death.

The town is a ski resort. Towering above the picturesque town is the 7,000-foot-high mountain Le Dome. The peace of Val d'Isere was suddenly shattered when Le Dome dumped some 100,000 cubic yards of snow on a three-story youth hostel!

In reporting the horrendous avalanche, *Newsweek* said, "Traveling at a speed of 120 miles per hour, the avalanche hit with such tremendous force that in minutes 42 people lay dead! Most of them were buried in a frozen tomb of snow!"

How terrifying for unsaved Christ-rejectors will be the sudden coming of the day of the Lord: "A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness" (Joel 2:2); a day in which impenitent ones will plead, not to the One whose mercy and forgiveness they have spurned, but to "the mountains and rocks, (saying) Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne" (Revelation 6:16).

PRAYER THOUGHT

For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? (Revelation 6:17).

SATURDAY, JULY 4

Scripture Reading – Psalm 100

PRIVILEGES TAKEN FOR GRANTED

Sometime ago the editorial page of *The New York Times* carried an article entitled "God Bless America." It was written by Janina Atkins, a Polish immigrant.

"Just six years ago I came with my husband to this country with $2.60 in my purse, some clothes, a few books, a bundle of old letters, and a little eiderdown pillow. I was an immigrant girl hoping for a new life and happiness in a strange new country.

"There is something in the air of America that filled my soul with a feeling of freedom and independence. This begot strength. There is no one here to lead you by the hand and order you about. We believed in the future and the future did not disappoint us.

"Today my husband is studying for his doctorate. We live in a comfortable apartment.

"I love this country because when I want to move from one place to another I do not have to ask permission. When I want to go abroad I just buy a ticket and go.

"I love America because I do not have to stand in line for hours to buy a piece of tough, fat meat. I love it because, even with inflation, I do not have to pay a day's earnings for a small chicken.

"I love America because America trusts me. When I go into a shop to buy a pair of shoes, I am not asked to produce my identity card. When I visit with friends, it is not reported to the secret police.

"You have only to live in the darkness of tyranny for a little while to realize how wonderful freedom really is! Few men in all history have lived with the privileges that we take for granted!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us give "thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Coming Events

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 22-26—Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 22-27—Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

June 29-July 1—General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina

June 29—July 3—Second Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 29—July 4—Youth Frontier Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

CHURCHES PARTICIPATING IN THE WIDOW'S FUND

Please note that one minister has died since our last announcement: the Rev. J. B. Starnes. Gifts of $50 are now due from those churches participating in the program. Please respond accordingly.

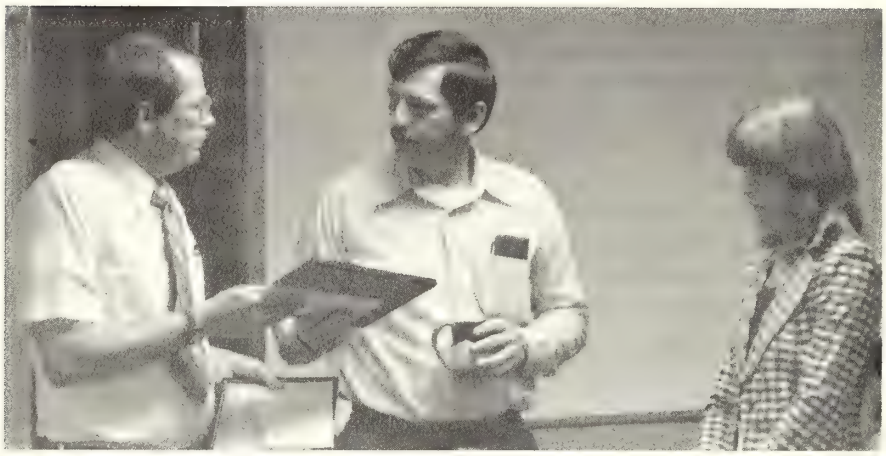
Churches will be notified through THE FREE WILL BAPTIST when a participating minister dies.

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

STAFF MEMBERS GRADUATE



The Rev. Larry Crowe and Miss Becky Barnette graduated from Southeastern Seminary in May. Both will be leaving the Children's Home to go to other fields of service. Becky is planning an internship this summer and will be going into some phase of church ministry this fall. She served the Children's Home as a tutor for the past two years.

Mr. Crowe served the Children's Home as a houseparent and then as Business Manager of the Children's Home. He graduated with a Masters in Divinity and a Masters in Theology. He and his family will be moving to Indiana where he will become Professor of Religious Studies and Coordinator of Student Financial Affairs at Oakland City College, Oakland City, Indiana.

NEW DIRECTOR OF CHILD CARE

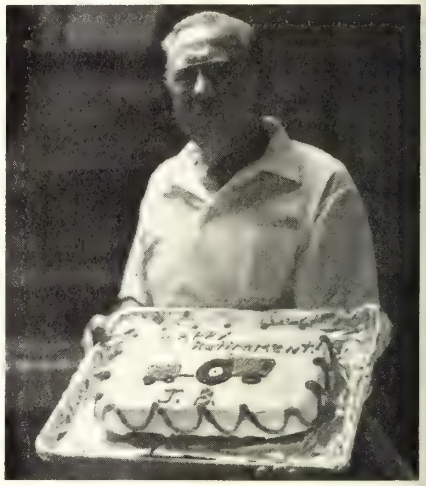


The Rev. T. Bruce Steadman was promoted to Director of Child Care at the Children's Home in the June 4 meeting of the Children's Home's Board of Directors. Mr. Steadman came to the Children's Home two years ago after pastoring the Rosebud church near Wilson. He and his wife, Kathy, have served as houseparents since that time. The Steadmans will continue to serve as houseparents until the end of the summer. Mr. Steadman also served as Campus Chaplain during the past year.

Mr. Steadman was born in Hamlet, North Carolina, and is 32 years old. He and his wife, Kathy, have two children: Tommy, 10; and Karen, 7. He attended Rohanen High School in Rockingham. He graduated from Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College with honors. He has attended Southeastern Seminary. He was in management with Pilot Life Insurance Company for five years before entering the ministry. He was ordained in May of 1977.

Mr. Steadman's management background, educational background and experience as a houseparent will enable him to meet the needs of our houseparents and the children we serve with an insight that only he could bring to this position. The Children's Home is fortunate to have someone of his calibre to fill this position.

J. B. PATTERSON RETIRES



J. B. Patterson, Farm Manager for the Children's Home, recently retired after 10 years of service to the Children's Home. He is pictured here with a cake, with his trusty tractor in frosting on top, which was baked by one of our staff.

He and his wife, Erma, will continue to live at the Home. Mrs. Patterson serves as a relief houseparent and helps out in many other areas. J. B. plans to cut a little grass, but for the most part he plans to catch up on his rest. We wish him well and express to him our sincere appreciation for his many years of service.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

STUDENTS LEARN OF GOD'S LOVE

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

What is God like? When you think of God, what picture comes to your mind? That is the question the Rev. Frank R. Harrison asked Mount Olive College summer school students in a recent chapel service.

"It is often difficult for us to come up with images to symbolize who and what God is," he said. "But Jesus helps us by providing a beautiful picture of God in the parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15." Mr. Harrison made several observations about the picture of God we get in this story.

"First, it is clear that God's love for you is absolutely constant," he said. "You can reject it. You can spit in God's face or curse Him. But, you cannot change God's love for you and you cannot prevent God from loving you."

Mr. Harrison pointed out that the son rebelled against the father and ran away to a far county. But, even this action did not change the father's loving attitude toward the son.

Also, the father received the son back into the family without criticism. "The father gave the repentant son the best—a robe, ring, and fatted calf. His love was non-judgmental as well as absolute."

"If you see God as a vicious tyrant and judge, it will rob you of the opportunity to allow God to bring out the best that is in you," Mr. Harrison said.

"But, if you see God as one who loves you and whose only purpose for you is good, then you are in a position to respond to God fully."

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT OAK GROVE CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Oak Grove church near Vanceboro, on Sunday, June 28, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Buddy Sasser.

THE BOOK CORNER

by DeWayne Eakes

Lester, Andrew D. and Lester, Judith L. *Understanding Aging Parents.* The Westminister Press, Philadelphia, 1980. The Christian Care Series. Volume 8, Wayne E. Oates, Editor.

Andrew "Andy" Lester and Judith are both pastoral counselors who use this book as a way to address the unique result of the increased life expectancy that we all enjoy today. The focus of the book is speaking to the relationship between the mid-life adults and their aging parents. In 1900, the average life expectancy was 47 years. Today the average life expectancy of men is 72 and for women it is 79.

Using cases from their vast experience with their own parents, the Lesters offer practical advice based on how others have coped successfully with the various problems which aging parents face. They discuss the physical and mental changes taking place in aging parents, how to face and deal with anxieties about death, and what happens when one parent dies. The idea of a "Living Will," dealing with what the person wishes to have done or not to have done, when hospitalization occurs is very helpful. A sample "living will" is given (p. 91). Having recently gone through this experience with a church family in which the father, having terminal cancer, died I can personally commend this idea of a living will. The experience, in which I shared as a pastor, relieved the wife and children of the anxieties of making these agonizing decisions about the use of so-called "Heroic life support" measures.

The Lesters are persons of faith. They approach the relationship between aging parents and mid-life adult children from the triple focii of the Christian faith, good common sense, and bringing the best of their professional expertise to bear on the reality of problems aging parents face. I commend this book to laity and clergy alike. It is available through our bookstores.

The quote from the authors' introduction is an appropriate concluding statement. "Our prayerful hope is that you might find in these pages ideas that shed light on the uniqueness of the relationship you have with your aging parents. Our Christian faith calls us to honor our fathers and mothers. To understand them is to facilitate the growth necessary to attain this goal."

"IT BELONGS TO GOD"

Leviticus 27:30

submitted by Joe Ingram



"And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S; it is holy unto the LORD."

People who belong to God want to do God's will. This is a rather casual statement, but it is not to be taken lightly. God is the supreme Ruler and Lord of our life if we have submitted our entire life (including possessions) to Him.

The above Scripture is one of the Levitical laws that established the relationship of a person's responsibility and support to the work of our Lord.

For many years the Foreign Missions Board has emphasized the responsibility of the Christian on the Foreign field to share in the stewardship of their life and possessions to help support their local church. We have taught the new converts in India, Mexico and the Philippines that they share in the responsibility of support to the church.

For some, this is a teaching that is not popular. They see our standard of living and way of life in the United States as being rich people. We have used the term as "blessed people" rather than "rich people." For surely we are a blessed nation. God has blessed our country with an abundance of resources for the evangelization of the world. Free Will Baptists have been faithful to God in their giving and sharing of those things that came through God's blessings.

In a recent letter from Dr. Lall, we were told that in the areas of our churches there had been rains to come at the right time and a great harvest had been enjoyed by our people. In the pictures we see a gathering of this harvest and a sharing of the blessings with the local church. Many of the rural areas do not use money as an exchange but will exchange their "goods" for needed "goods."



Here we have the people bringing their wheat and pulses to a "Thanksgiving Service" in the area of Alinagar. The members bring their offering of wheat and pulses for the support of the church. Many of our elementary schools receive a portion of their support through this way of giving. These goods are measured out in kilograms, placed in bags and carried to the city to be sold and the money used to support the church.

Of course, this does not give full support to the church, but this along with the support that our North Carolina churches give will make the work of the Indian churches a cooperative effort. After all, "we are laborers together" for Christ.

There is also consideration and plans to use the funds raised in cooperation with World Vision for relief of hunger to purchase this wheat and pulses and then distribute this to areas and people that are in need. Please pray for this work and continue to support the cause of Christ that souls may be saved.

Thank you for your continued increase in giving and praying.

All we have belongs to God and we are just stewards of these possessions. Let us be faithful in our use of His goods that have been loaned to us.





Dear Brother Pastors:

This letter is to announce the availability of Mr. Charles Barnard for services in our churches.

Charles and Jackie moved to Goldsboro, North Carolina, on Friday, June 5, 1981, and are available to visit our churches for either the morning or evening services. They will also be available for services through the week.

Below you will find an appointment slip. Would you please look at your church calendar and select the date you would like for them to visit your church and return this to me immediately. We will plan services through the month of February, 1982. We will make his schedule on a first request basis.

I am sure they will be a blessing to your church and this will give your people an opportunity to meet this family before they go to the Philippines.

Thank you for your continued support and help in the work of Foreign Missions.

In His Service,
Joseph H. Ingram

DEAR BROTHER INGRAM:

PLEASE SCHEDULE THE BARNARD FAMILY TO VISIT WITH THE_____
(church)

Church on_____ ( ) A.M. ( ) P.M.
(First choice date)

or _____ ( ) A.M. ( ) P.M.
(Second choice date)

_____
Signature

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 5

TEN COMMANDMENTS

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 5: 6-8, 11-21

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 5:33

I. INTRODUCTION

The first four lessons of our study of Deuteronomy have dealt with the theme "Foundations of Faith." In the discourse of Moses to his people he has recalled what God has done for them. He has cited definite events transpiring at definite places, many of which those in his audience witnessed. His aim seems to be to assure Israel that they have every reason to place their confidence in the Lord. He reminds them that God had loved their fathers and chosen Israel to be His people. Furthermore the Lord brought them safely through the wilderness to Kadesh-barnea, at the southern entrance to the land they were to possess. However, a lack of faith at this point caused them to fear the people of Canaan more than they trusted God, with the result that they had to remain in the wilderness another thirty-eight years.

Moses spoke further of the events at Horeb (Mount Sinai). Here God spoke and the people both saw the manifestations of His presence and heard His voice. He gave them righteous statutes and judgments to live by. In all this, Moses stressed the fact that no other people on earth had ever been called of God and blessed in this fashion.

Moses is now ready for his second discourse to Israel (Deuteronomy 5:1). The people will soon cross into the Promised Land. A people who have been nomads for years will settle in towns and villages and begin to develop into the nation they are called to be. In this, as in all things, they will need God's direction, God's instruction. The Ten Commandments, basic to all of the ethical and moral instruction of the Old Testament, were first given at Sinai (Exodus 20). Now Moses repeats them.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. For the most part, the Book of Deuteronomy is made up of Moses' discourses to the Children of Israel. The first four lessons were concerned with the first of these discourses. In those lessons, we dealt with the theme "Foundations of Faith." In the first discourse, Moses recalled what God had done for the Israelites, and how their gratitude for God's goodness should motivate them to obedience.

B. In this lesson we come to Moses' second discourse to the Israelites. The Israelites, who have been nomads for years, will soon cross over the Jordan River into the Land of Canaan. There they will occupy villages and towns and have a more settled and permanent life than had been possible before. They will develop into the nation that God intended them to be. To help them to live as He wanted them to live and to know that they must be obedient and trust Him, God gave the Ten Commandments.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Unit II, Laws to Live By, begins with this lesson and will involve five sessions in a study of the commandments of God. As we have said, Deuteronomy is a reviewing of the law, among other things, and this lesson takes up the Ten Commandments one by one. Israel needed this review before entering into Canaan, and we need occasionally to review the commandments to determine whether our moral and ethical conduct follows them.

B. The Ten Commandments are basic to all moral law. They are the Law of God, for God himself gave them. The penalties for breaking them are extremely severe and it is very important, therefore, that we know them and the perfect interpretation which the teachings of Moses gave them.

C. Basically, the Ten Commandments form the heart of the Mosaic Covenant, given primarily to Israel but established also for our own moral guidelines. This is an important series of lessons, especially the one for today, and can be absorbingly interesting if we will really enter the study.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Life Is Like a Jigsaw Puzzle—It has been pointed out by many people in the past that life is like a jigsaw puzzle. Much of the time there is at least one piece of the puzzle missing or out of place. The Ten Commandments give us instructions about how to live at peace with God and with one another in this world. Of course, if we are to live at peace with God we must take Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

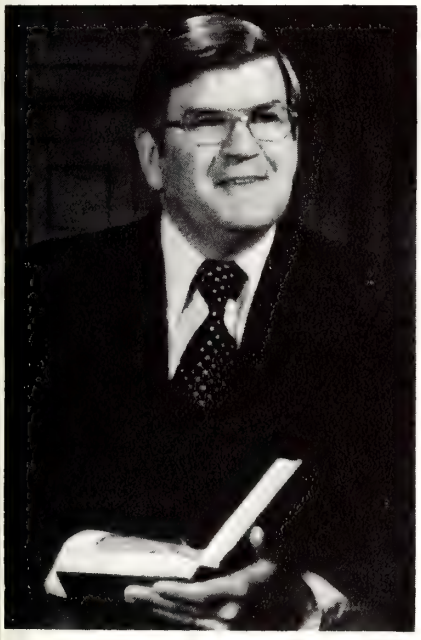
Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**

The Rev. Willis Wilson

Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

OUR PASTOR

submitted by Mary Lee Smart



The Rev. Willis Wilson

The members of Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church of Winterville, North Carolina, are very fortunate and honored to have the Rev. Willis Wilson as their pastor.

Willis was born January 18, 1933, to David and Allie Wilson. He lost his father at the age of 5. His mother was left to assume the job of both mother and father. Mr. Wilson often speaks of her as being a remarkable and loving woman. She was called to the Master's house in 1962.

In 1951, Willis graduated from Stokes High School. He began his public speaking in F.F.A.

He heard and obeyed God's call to the ministry in the summer of 1952, at Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church. He entered the Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, in the fall, to prepare himself for the ministry.

On December 28, 1954, at Sweet Gum Grove church, the Rev. Dennis Alexander administered the charge at Willis' ordination service.

December 22, 1957, Willis Whichard Wilson took Betty Jean Warren as his bride. Jean has been a true pastor's wife. She has stood by him in good and bad times. She is a great asset to our church.

Mr. Wilson came to Reedy Branch in October, 1963. Members say of Willis, "He is more than a preacher—he is a friend. He is always there when we need him. He laughs with us and cries with us."

Willis' ministry is not only to the people who can go to church but the ones who are not able to. He visits the hospitals, nursing homes, and homes, not only of sick members but many others. If he is unable to go he sends Mrs. Wilson. He even tapes his sermon every Sunday for the shut-ins.

Reedy Branch has had many face-lifts since Mr. Wilson came. In 1965, the educational building was made larger and the sanctuary was brick-veneered. In 1976, a fellowship hall was added to the grounds. His Sunday school class landscaped the front of the church this past year. The interior of the church was remodeled in January and February, 1981. Mr. Wilson always helped in the building and remodeling. He has made many additions to the parsonage. Whatever we would start out to do we have always been able to meet our obligations.

Mr. Wilson is his own secretary. He does all his typing and mailing. He has a church paper that goes out each month.

In 1980, a library was added to the church. Mrs. Wilson is in charge of all the buying and getting the books in order.

Willis has his own Sunday school class of young couples. It started with three couples and has grown to many more.

On Mother's Day, 1976, Mr. Wilson held his first baby dedication. Now every Mother's Day there is a dedication of all the babies born since the previous Mother's Day. Whenever a new baby is born to one of our members a red rose is placed on the altar by his class.

Mr. Wilson has many accomplishments: He was named Minister of the Year by the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Free Will Baptists in 1969. His name was placed on the Free Will Baptist Heritage Foundation plaque at Mount Olive College. He is past president of the State Convention of Free Will Baptists; he is past secretary of the Central Conference Ordaining Council; he is on the board of directors of Cragmont and has served as youth director; he is

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moderator of the Central Conference. Mr. Wilson has recently been put on the board of directors of the Free Will Baptist Press.

In 1974, Mr. Wilson became a 32nd Degree mason of the Scottish Rite. He has been appointed assistant Master of Ceremonies of Sudan Temple, New Bern, North Carolina.

Mr. Wilson has spoken to many groups and has touched many lives. Pastoring to him is more than preaching. His life is a living ministry. He is loved by all, young and old. He gives of his time and money. He is always willing to help where he is needed. We love you, Willis Wilson.

NEWS NOTE

Dedication Service to Be At First Church, Williamston

First Free Will Baptist Church of Williamston, North Carolina, will have a dedication service, dedicating the new Sunday school rooms, renovated fellowship hall, and completely renovated church to God, on Sunday, June 28, at the 11 a.m. worship service. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Curtis Jones. Everyone is invited to attend.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Walter M. Pollard announces that he is available for pastoral work, supply work, or is willing to work with other ministers in times of sickness or vacation. His address is 111 Glenwood Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; phone 756-2211 (night), 752-3310 (day).

NOTICE

All area bookstores—Ayden, Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, and Kinston—will be closed for inventory on Tuesday, June 30.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

the publishing of the first number at the new location, some of us will not soon forget the experiences at 204—the flight of stairs that sometimes seemed to grow higher, and the heat in the offices in midsummer. But the good things that took place are too numerous to mention."

Well, this trip must end—even though I don't want it to, for I have already written more than there is room for, so let me simply conclude by saying, "Yes, Mr. Overman, the good things that have taken place in our history **are** too numerous to mention!"

Janie

TWO MICRO CHURCH YOUTH HONORED



Leigh Hales, the Rev. Clyde Cox, Mrs. Irene Creech, and Shari Dyson

Two members of Micro Free Will Baptist Church YFA, Leigh Hales and Shari Dyson, were selected to serve as marshals for graduation exercises at Micro School, on June 4, 1981. (The two seventh graders with the highest grade point averages are selected to serve each year.)

Leigh, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hales, serves as Outreach Secretary of the YFA. She is also a member of the Micro School Junior Beta Club, the basketball and softball teams, and the Chorus. Her mother, Carolyn, serves as Youth Director of Micro church.

Shari is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vance Dyson. She serves as YFA Missions Chairman. Shari is a member of the Junior Beta Club and Chorus, also.

Both girls are members of the Intermediate Sunday School Class at Micro church.

The graduation exercises were coordinated by Mrs. Irene Creech, a teacher's aide at the school. She is a Sunday school teacher at Micro church.

The Rev. Clyde Cox is pastor of the church.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 27 – August 1

WAKE UP CAMPERS!!! DID YOU HEAR THAT WHISTLE??? ARE YOU GETTING EXCITED???

We certainly are! We know how much God blessed last year and we are really looking forward to this year's camp. Souls were saved and many young people were drawn closer to the Lord. We invite you to come to camp with us during this week where God's Word has top priority. Bring some friends with you and make sure you pack your Bible also. We'll hide His words in our hearts during this week and trust God to use us for His glory.

The cost of camp is $65 and $5 activity fee. There will be an additional $2 cost for those who wish to get a picture of the group. This is optional. Registration fee is $10 and must be sent in with your application.

Please fill out the application form below and along with your registration fee mail it to the Rev. Sam Weeks, Route 3, Box 118-A, Newport, North Carolina 28570, **no later than July 13. Don't delay!** We'll be looking for you this year at the Young People's Bible Conference.

APPLICATION

AGES—9 up

Name of Camper _____

Address _____

City or Town _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Height _____ Sex _____

Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____

Church _____

Pastor's Name _____

Pastor's Address _____

Send Application to: Sam Weeks
Route 3, Box 118-A
Newport, NC 28570

Date Received _____

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 27 – August 1
Registration Fee $10
Balance due upon boarding bus $60

Here to Serve You!

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass church steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so that we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.



Five Locations to Serve You

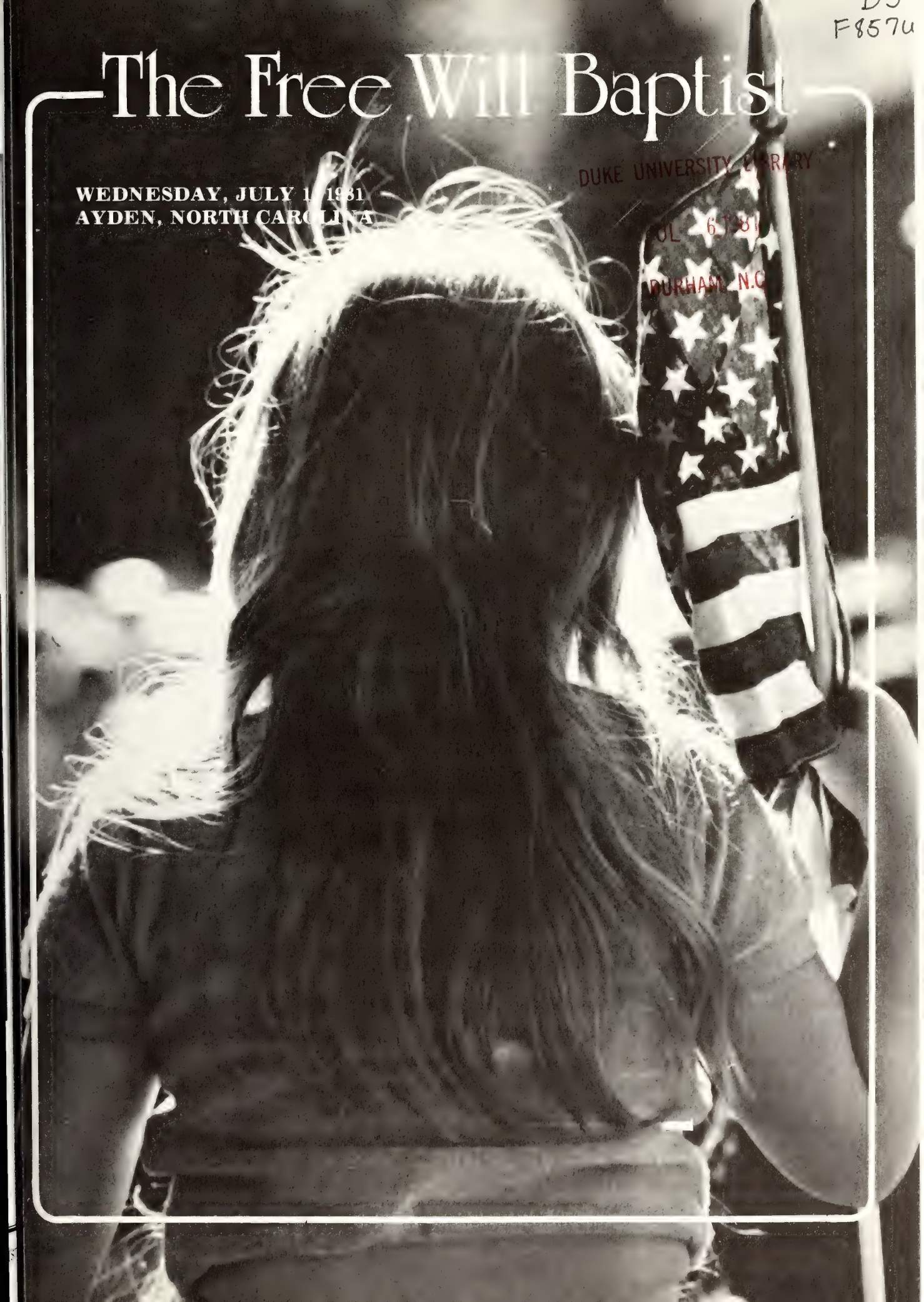
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 1931
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
JUL 6 '31
DURHAM, N.C.



Thankful? For America?

Thankful for the rising cost of living? Thankful for a land where crime is on the increase? Where those criminals who are caught are often turned loose on society again? Thankful for the rapidly decreasing moral code? (Lord, we so desperately need people who are willing to take a stand against wrong. Many people today whitewash sin; they threaten to turn "the land of the free and the home of the brave" into a cesspool.) Thankful for unemployment and existing callousness among neighbors? Thankful for a government that is often dishonest, homelife that is deteriorating, and explosive race problems?

Yes, I am thankful for America. Our country leads the way in sending missionaries, in giving to needy nations, in assisting refugees. It is here that I see people who care for the disabled and handicapped, where the poor can find help. I am thankful to be counted among people of compassion whose hearts are broken by the wounds and needs of others, for America is a nation that cares and gives.

Yes, I am thankful to be an American. I can get in my car and travel wherever I wish in the continental United States without a pass. There is no one to search my luggage as I travel; no one follows me when I enter public buildings. There are but a few restrictions on where I go and what I see. My views? Well, I can express them freely, for we have agreed to disagree. I can gather with my friends and family and worship God; I feel no threat of this worship being suspended by secret police. I am thankful for freedom.

Yes, I am thankful to live in America—even though our society has laws and controls; such are necessary—they make for a better country. If I break one of these laws, I am entitled to both a lawyer and a fair trial. I am thankful for justice.

It has been written that the average age of the world's great civilizations is 200 years, and that great civilizations seem to follow a cycle. They rise up out of **bondage** because of their **spiritual faith; courage** and **liberty** result. In time, **abundance** leads to **selfishness, complacency** and **apathy.** Before long, people become **dependent** once more, and soon, back in **bondage.** When we celebrate the birth of our nation on July 4, the United States of America will be 205 years old. (Some may even wonder where we are in the cycle of events.) Yes, there are things wrong with our country; but there is a lot right with it, too! As Christians, we need to uphold, pray for, and be loyal to this great land.

Yes, I am thankful for America. Are you?

Cover Photo by Ed Carlin

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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THE NEW RIGHT, THE NEW LEFT, AND THE CHURCH

by Harry Grubbs

SOME political experts attribute the election victory of Ronald Reagan and the Republican swing in the United States Senate to the "New Right." This New Right is bolstered by the "Moral Majority," Fundamentalist churches, and electronic evangelists.

The New Right has been criticized by moderates and liberals in political circles and in "main line" churches for getting too much involved in politics. (Ironically, Bob Jones III of Bob Jones University, **the** stalwart of Fundamentalist Theology, has also attacked the Moral Majority for the same reason.) Yet liberal church leaders have been involved in politics for years, and the black church is both the religious and political center of the black community. The truth is that as long as any of us are citizens of the United States, we have the right to express and vote our convictions, and we have the right to organize to advocate our convictions. However, we do not have the right to assert that all Christians nor all Fundamentalists, for that matter, must vote a particular way.

In the national swing to the right there is an element that is very frightening and should be of great concern to all Christians—namely, the rise of the Neo-Nazis and the revival of the Ku Klux Klan. The Nazis and the KKK are "hate" organizations bent on the destruction of those they hate. Nazi Germany under Adolph Hitler was determined to eradicate all Jews and Jewish sympathizers. The historical purpose of the KKK has been to eliminate the Negro race, or at best, keep them in slavery.

How, in the name of God, can such hate groups find supporters and members in this country! The United States fought Nazism during World War II. Many Free Will Baptists fought—some gave their lives, some spent time as POW's—in opposition to Nazi hatred. Now we allow a Nazi to run for political office in North Carolina. How can this be? We live in a free country, that's how. Any person can affirm any political ideology he desires in the United States, but Nazis and KKK would take our freedoms.

One sad thing about the Nazis and KKK is that they claim to be Christian. Hitler claimed to be following divine leadership in his murder of over 6 million Jews and 2 million supporters. The KKK has found support in Fundamentalist churches in the South, West, and Midwest, and many KKK leaders claim to be Christian. The fact is there is nothing Christian about hatred of one's fellow human beings whether white, black, male, female, Jew, Gentile, Christian, Moslem, or pagan. For the Church to give credence to the KKK or Nazis is for the Church to promote the spirit of anti-Christ (1 John 4:2-21). Hatred of one's fellow human beings is anti-Christian, unchristian, immoral. All human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26, 27). Christ teaches us that love of neighbor is equivalent to loving God (Matthew 22:27-29). Therefore, the Church cannot condone such hatred that permeates the Klan and Nazis.

At the other end of the spectrum is what we might call the "New Left"—namely, the Communist Workers Party (CWP). The CWP really came to light in Greensboro, North Carolina, on November 3, 1979. The Communists organized a "death to the Klan" rally. Death came that day, but, ironically, only to CWP members. The Communists had dared the Klan to show up; that proved to be a fatal mistake. The Klan and Nazis did go to Greensboro, and five CWP members were killed. Six Klansmen and Nazis were finally brought to trial on murder charges. According to the jury foreman, the video tapes of the incident were not clear enough to determine that any of the six defendants had fired the first shots. The Communists who might have been eyewitnesses to the shootings refused to testify, saying that the trial was a farce. So because of the unclear tapes

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and the refusal of the Communists to testify and because verdicts must be based on court proceedings, the defendants were acquitted. America responded with horror and anger, but if the Communists had testified, the outcome would have been different.

The sole reason for the existence of the Communist party in the USA is to overthrow our government. The reason the CWP refused to cooperate with the trial in Greensboro was so the defendants would be released and the CWP could accuse the government of conspiracy with the Klan. The Communists have accused the FBI, Greensboro police, and the Governor of North Carolina of conspiracy with the KKK. But this is Communist propaganda. The CWP are liars just like Lenin and the Russian Social Democratic Workers Party who took over the Russian government after the overthrow of the Tsar.

Communists claim to be "for the people," for equality, for equal rights, for the worker. Communists in Russia before the overthrow of the Tsar advocated democracy (Social Democrats, they called themselves), equality, and a redistribution of the wealth. When Lenin took over, he became dictator, the party leaders were equal to each other and everyone else equal to peasants, and the wealth was redistributed among the leaders and the poverty among everyone else. Communists have always claimed to be pro-labor, yet Russia is at the threshold of taking military action against Poland because Polish workers are demanding better working conditions. There is absolutely no equality, no freedom, no democracy in any Communist country on earth. So how can anyone think Communism in the United States will offer freedom and equality? Absurd!

Communism is inherently totalitarian, repressive, and atheistic. Its goal is to destroy democracy, free enterprise, and the Church in the USA as well as all over the world. Yet these people can organize simply because we live in a free country. Allow the Communists to take over and no one will be free.

There is a middle ground between the extreme right and the extreme left. The middle ground is not a compromise of values, but rather a greater set of values. We cannot stand toe to toe with one radical group in order to defeat the other; we must stand for what is right to defeat both radical groups.

How should our government react to these extremes? This is a free country, founded upon the idea of responsible freedom and equality of all its citizens. These are democratic and Christian principles. Therefore, the Klan, Nazis, and Communists have the right to **be,** to organize, and to espouse their philosophies. They do not have the right to use violence, force, or coercion to promote their ideas. When force, violence, or



coercion are used, our government has the **duty** to step in and use whatever means necessary to protect innocent prey. When any group poses a threat to our national security, the members of that group should be treated as traitors to the government.

How should the Church react to these extremists? Even though the Church reaches out in love to all people, it must guard against being used to espouse extremist political ideals. When we use the Church to espouse our conservative political ideals, we become like the Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran. Khomeini is a religious fanatic conservative who wants to hold to the past without any change. His fanaticism and hatred have overshadowed reason and compassion. The Church in its passion must never lose its compassion.

The Church must expose sin and sinful ideologies where they exist. We must expose Nazism, Klanism, Communism, false religions, and charlatan preachers so our people will not be deceived. The Church in Germany, by and large, simply flowed with the times and did not expose the dangerous policies of Hitler. Hitler claimed to be religious ("born again" if you please), so the Church kept silent. The Church must speak up when sinful ideologies prevail. The Church must speak out against sin and godlessness. And the Church must speak up when "born again" people act godlessly.

However, the Church must always reach out in love to everyone. The Church has no authority to condemn souls (John 3:17). Christ refused to condemn anyone, so the Church does not have the authority to do so. The Church does not condone sin of any nature, but neither does it condemn the sinner. The Church's job is to offer the opportunity for repentance to everyone and salvation in Jesus Christ to all who believe; to advocate love for God and all human beings; and to teach right living within the scope of Christian freedom and responsibility. It is then the duty of the Christian to show genuine love to everyone—sinner, Klansman, Nazi, Communist—and to pray for those who reject the gospel.

Pastor of the Week

The Rev. John David Hill

Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Stokes, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. John David Hill, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A DEVOTED MAN OF GOD

submitted by members of
Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church

In March, 1979, the pastor of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, resigned. Realizing the church's need, we began to pray that God would send us the right pastor. God surely answered our prayers when He sent our pulpit committee to the Rev. John David Hill. He began his pastorate with us in July, 1979, and since that time he has served it well.

Our pastor was born to Mr. and Mrs. John W. Hill of Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina, on September 30, 1924. He served in the Navy from 1944-46 with an honorable discharge in 1946. When in the service, he made a decision for Christ and joined Bethel Free Will Baptist Church. He was ordained as a deacon of his church on January 10, 1959.

Mr. Hill accepted the call and was licensed to preach January 2, 1966, and was ordained October 31, 1968. He served Steven's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church for eight and one-half years.

He has served on the Ordaining Council of the Cape Fear Conference and Executive Committee of the Ministerial Association of the Ministers' Conference.

Mr. Hill is married to the former Mabel Lee of Four Oaks, North Carolina. They have two daughters, Mrs. Gail Congleton and Mrs. Sharon Dickens of Four Oaks, North Carolina; one grandchild.

They moved into our new parsonage, which was completed the first of May, 1979 and we, with God's help were able to pay off the debt of the parsonage on November 19, 1980.

Mr. Hill's wife, has been a real asset to his ministry by standing behind him with her prayers and support and is always willing for God's work to come first. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have many fine qualities, but we think the main and foremost ones are their love and devotion to God and mankind. They are always conscious of the needs of others. Mr. Hill is constantly visiting the sick and those who suffer from bereavement; in fact, he doesn't limit his visiting, praying, and caring to just his congregation but he takes time to share himself with any friend or relative of members of his congregation who needs him. They are both willing to do anything they can for the betterment of our church and community.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill, we love you and thank God for sending you our way. We know this is an answer to our prayers. You have contributed much of your time and love to our church and community. We pray that we might continue to work together for many years.

COMING EVENTS

June 29-July 1—General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina

June 29—July 3—Second Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

June 29—July 4—Youth Frontier Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 3-5—Youth Retreat, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

July 4—Independence Day

July 6—Free Will Baptist Press and All Bible Bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson and Kinston

July 6-10—Third Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

July 6-11—Youth Frontier Conference (AFC), Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

July 12—Homecoming and Annual Alumni Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 20-23—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

July 27—August 1—Young People's Bible Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina



SUNDAY, JULY 5

Scripture Reading— Exodus 14:1-14

LIE DOWN AND SEE

The spiritual giant Dr. Len G. Broughton, in commenting upon the verse, "Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord" (Exodus 14:13), said, "There are many lazy Christians who would be better pleased if the verse read, 'Lie down and see the salvation of the Lord.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

MONDAY, JULY 6

Scripture Reading—Matthew 12:38-50

PARACHUTING CATS

Said a staff writer in the *Austin American-Statesman,* "Things got so bad a few years ago, they had to parachute cats into Borneo. The whole problem started with malaria. Health officers had the area sprayed with DDT to kill the mosquitoes.

"The insecticide also poisoned and partially paralyzed flies which fell easy prey to lizards which then became diseased from the DDT in the flies. The lizards, usually able to escape the cats, were being killed off by the cats; and the cats, in turn, died from the DDT in the lizards.

"With the cats gone, rats from the bushes invaded the villages, creating further problems of disease and death."

Sin-shackled man is prone to experiment with different alleged expedients to eradicate the inborn evils of his heart, but to no avail.

Long ago the Saviour, in speaking of the worthlessness of self-reformation, said, "When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house . . . and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself . . . and the last state of that man is worse than the first" (Matthew 12:43-45).

PRAYER THOUGHT

What unregenerate man needs to do is to acknowledge his lostness and penitently plead, ". . . God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).

TUESDAY, JULY 7

Scripture Reading—Titus 3:1-11

THE UNPRETENTIOUS QUEEN

In welcoming Emperor Hirohito of Japan on his visit to England in 1971, Queen Elizabeth said, "We cannot pretend that the past did not exist. We cannot pretend that the relations between our two peoples have always been peaceful and friendly. However, it is precisely this experience which should make us all the more determined never to let it happen again!"

We cannot forget the fact that "we ourselves also were sometime foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another" (Titus 3:3), "Dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1). But we can rejoice in the fact that God in mercy has forgiven and forgotten our guilty past.

PRAYER THOUGHT

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more (Hebrews 8:12).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 27

NO NEED TO HURRY

Said Warren Wiersbe, in *Moody Monthly,* "Perhaps the greatest enemy a man faces is the idea that he has plenty of time—no need to hurry to see the doctor. When he finally makes that visit, he discovers that the situation is critical, perhaps fatal! He has waited too long.

"One of America's wealthiest men died without a will. He had planned to call his attorney after the Christmas holidays, but He met his Maker first."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Warningly the Bible says, "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Proverbs 27:1).

THURSDAY, JULY 9

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 3

SUBMITTING WIVES

Said Dr. James M. Boice, speaker on a nationwide broadcast and consulting editor of *Eternity,* "When my wife and I were married, the officiating minister spoke briefly from the verse, 'Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord' (Ephesians 5:22). Afterwards a woman told us that she had never heard those things before. We asked, 'What things?' She replied, 'About a wife submitting to her

husband,' and added, 'When I go home I'm going to tear that page out of my Bible!'

"When Paul said wives are to submit themselves to their husbands, he used a verb that means 'to set, determine, or place' and a preposition that means 'under.' Thus the words refer to a type of obedience that is supporting—like a foundation supporting a house, or like a member of the White House cabinet supporting the President of the United States. The wife is to have this supporting obedience to her husband. This is not a demeaning position."

How mutilated would be our Bibles if commands we do not wish to obey were torn out! The Book would resemble a plucked chicken.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The man who samples the Word of God occasionally never acquires much of a taste for it. Apply thyself wholly to the Scriptures and the Scriptures wholly to thyself.

FRIDAY, JULY 10

Scripture Reading—Psalm 139

"HUSH, MOMMY, AND PRAY!"

"I will soon be sent to Vietnam," a husband told his wife. Filled with sadness, she began to weep.

Seeing her distress, little two-year-old Cindy walked to the table on which lay a Bible. She took it to her mother and said, "Hush, Mommy, and pray!"

Mother's sadness subsided. God seemed to say to her, "I will watch over and protect your loved ones and you!"

How assuring is the unfailing promise, "If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me" (Psalm 139:9, 10).

(Continued on Page 15)

THE WAY I SEE IT

"Lord, Let Me Feel"

by C. H. Overman

I saw them standing in the hospital corridor looking out the window. They were perhaps in their late fifties or early sixties. The man was the patient; the wife was simply sharing some time (and love) with him. Their faces were grim, or at least they seemed to me. I wondered—what were they looking at as they gazed out the window? Perhaps nothing, really. What was his illness? Had the doctor informed him of a terminal illness? Had there been a heart attack? Did he have a financial problem or a family problem? Actually, I'll never know because they were strangers to me; but I will always wonder . . . .

Have you ever noticed such people as you visit the hospitals, especially the major medical centers? They are there and often lonely and afraid. What if it were you? What if it were you gazing out the window in uncertainty, wondering what all the x-rays, treatments, operations, trips back and forth were really going to accomplish?

Suppose you had just been informed that you had a terminal illness? Or what if it were your wife, husband, child, or parent? What would your reaction be? The fact is that unless you have been in such a situation, you can only imagine. And imagination is limited.

Many of us live a big part of our lives without a major crisis such as a serious illness or the death of a close loved one. When it happens to others, we somehow find consolation in the attitude that such cannot happen to us. But sooner or later we all experience it. At any given time we may become a part of a friend's crisis. Our prayer should then be, "Lord, help us to feel, to experience what he is experiencing." Our best effort, however, will fall far short in understanding his or her trauma. In short, the only way to really know is to experience it. Then we can weep with those who weep and mourn with those who mourn, even though it may be inwardly concealed.

A few years ago a lady who was a member of the church I was serving had an operation in which cancer was involved. The children were anxious for me to talk to their father because "You have experienced the same thing," they said. They felt that I might help him to understand, and I believe I did. It was not my choosing, but I had stood in his shoes. And God had chosen to use a tragic experience out of my life to strengthen and glorify His name.

There are many things we have not experienced, of course. There are many things we hope we will not experience. In all circumstances, however, we know that His will must ultimately be served. But the way I see it, we can pray, "Lord, help me to feel. And where I cannot fully understand another's plight, help me to share your love as I give of myself."

NEWS & NOTES

SIDNEY CHURCH HAD TWO BIG SERVICES



On May 31, Sidney Free Will Baptist Church had a special service for its graduates. There were two high school graduates, Debbie Brinn and Judy Keech; and one college graduate, Gary Burbage. Debbie and Judy were presented Bibles from the church; Gary was presented a Bible Dictionary. The pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, brought the morning message on the subject, "Only One Life."

For the evening services, the young people from Free Union Free Will Baptist Church presented "Down by the Creek Bank." Everyone from Sidney church really enjoyed the group of young people and their program.

Mother's Day Services at Sweet Gum Grove Church

Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, held a special service of dedication on Mother's Day, May 10. There were thirteen children dedicated to the Lord; they received a certificate of dedication. The choir rendered a special entitled, "If I Could Hear My Mother Pray Again." The pastor, the Rev. David Hill, spoke for the morning message from Proverbs 31:1-31.

There were three special mothers honored with a corsage. The oldest mother who was 86 years old was Mrs. Ethel Tyson. The youngest mother was Mrs. Angela Davenport. The mother with the youngest child was Mrs. Mary Pollard Williams.

Retreat Held at Sidney Church

Sidney Free Will Baptist Church held a retreat on June 27. Singing, preaching, and testimonies highlighted the day; there was something for everyone. The activities included hearing invited singers and preachers, and enjoying a pig-picking with all the goodies.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Steve Hargrove. Sidney church is located at Route 2, Belhaven, North Carolina.

Ayden Church Gets New Pastor



The Rev. David T. Ricks

Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina, is happy to announce that the Rev. David T. Ricks began his pastorate at the church on June 7, and is now residing in the parsonage at 614 Park Avenue, Ayden, North Carolina. He is married to the former Shirley Ruffin of Elm City, North Carolina. They have two sons: Joseph, age 6; and Thomas, age 11.

Mr. Ricks attended Elm City High School; Wilson City Schools; and Indian River High School in Titusville, Florida. He served in the United States Army, where he graduated from Quartermaster School and received a diploma as an engineering and parts specialist. He also took a course in Business Administration while serving in the Army. He holds certificates from Duo-Therm and Reese Corporations as a parts specialist, too.

At the present time, he is a student at Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North

Carolina, in the Certified Pastor Program.

Mr. Ricks came to Ayden from Mount Tabor church in Creswell, North Carolina. He has been a member of the Piedmont Conference and the Albemarle Conference where he served on the Albemarle Mission Board.

He and his family are looking forward to the work in Ayden. He would also like to announce that he is available for revivals.

Winterville Church Had Baptismal Service

Winterville and Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Churches had a glorious joint service on June 14, at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina. The occasion was a baptismal service. The Rev. David Hill, pastor of Sweet Gum Grove church, baptized two candidates while the Rev. Ed Taylor baptized nine from his church.

Mr. Taylor brought the evening message with the church trio singing a very appropriate "Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You."

It was a beautiful service as the two congregations sang praises to the Lord and watched the baptism as the strains of familiar hymns on the organ were heard in the background.

Mrs. Hettie Sasser Honored At Pleasant Hill Church

Members of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, North Carolina, entertained Mrs. Hettie Sasser of Nahunta with a surprise birthday party on June 22. Mrs. Sasser is ninety-three years old and has been a member at Pleasant Hill for more than eighty years. She is the oldest living member of the church.

Mrs. Sasser was presented a corsage and a birthday cake by the church, and several of the children sang special songs for her. The minister, the Rev. Don Kivett, read to her from the Bible and spoke of the great inspiration her life and Christian witness have been to so many people.

Reedy Branch Church Honors Fathers

On Father's Day, several fathers were remembered at Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina, by the pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson.

The father with the most children present was a tie between brothers, Ralph and Jack Davenport. The oldest father was George Merrill, who was 72. The youngest father was Thomas Bowen. The father with the youngest child was Jimmy Evans. The father who has been a member of the church for the longest time was E. C. Davenport, who has been a member for 43 years.

NOTICE

Carteret County Union Meeting is spearheading the Home Fund Drive for the purpose of purchasing Mrs. J. B. (Addie) Starnes a mobile home.

All money should be earmarked and sent to Mrs. Addie Starnes, 3010 Bridges Street, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557.

First Church of Rocky Mount Has Bible School

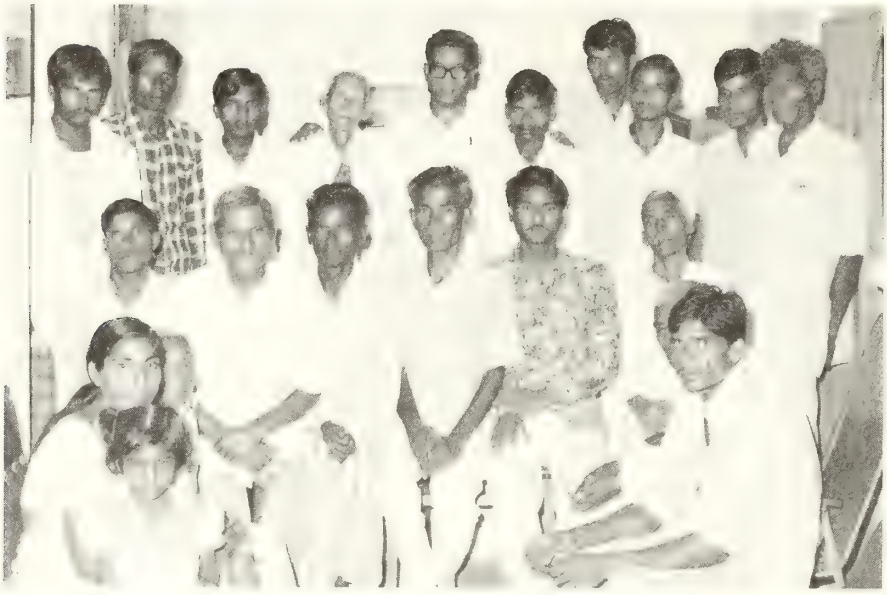


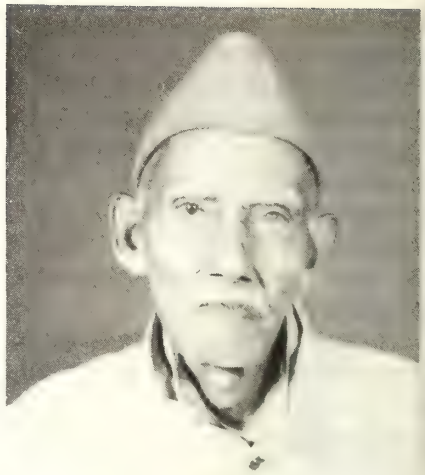
The First Free Will Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, announces that it had one of the very best Bible schools during the week of June 14, 1981, which was ever held. It can be described as having good teachers and willing students. Marie Jenkins directed the school and pointed out that the average attendance was 63 persons daily.

On Friday, June 19, the commencement service was held. Many persons attended to see the good program provided by the youngsters.

Mark S. Hobbs is pastor of the church.

An Open Letter from Dr. Lall





Dear Friends in North Carolina,

Health and Benediction!

I have been in receipt of several letters from some of you expressing your sympathies at the situation we work in His vineyard. I am grateful to you for your kind thoughts. I really wish I could reply to each one of you but it is not possible at the moment and, therefore, send this letter to you through our director-treasurer, the Rev. Joseph H. Ingram.

Though at times I feel disappointed when placed in a position of harassment but restore my faith and courage by recalling Philippians 1:29: ". . . not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." This actually means that the grace of God is not only to believe but also to suffer. Because, while belief produces spiritual life, suffering produces spiritual muscles; thus, the believer gets full strength and grows tough.

I know very well that I am not worthy for great achievements like we have in these past years; it is just because of your sharing and great concern with me for the growth of our church. How regularly I get letters from the women's auxiliaries in North Carolina saying that "we are in prayers for you" and I'm sure of positive response of your prayers which is before us. Your letters bring inspiration to me and my people. Suffering is God's precious gift to us and we should not miss it.

Even though I am not able to answer your letters individually, being short of time, I always think of you and pray for you. Kindly continue to pray for me and all our co-workers and the work we have ahead for the evangelization to the unreached and the unsaved millions in our country.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall
Free Will Baptist Church of India

OUR PREACHING MISSIONS 1981

The Free Will Baptist Church in India continues the yearly activity of evangelization in various parts of the country from the second fortnight of May after the schools are closed for summer until the end of June when the rains set in. From our past experience it can be said that the evangelization in the rural parts of the country of India is becoming difficult day by day involving great risk of life. Our church has a dignified programme of preaching each year which results into great success.

The Rev. Babu Singh: A veteran minister of 96 years is yet so active to the call of preaching. He leaves for the country of Nepal, along with his grandson, Stanley, where he was warmly received last June. He will depart on June 2, 1981, with full energies and preparedness. He will be visiting Dhangari, Mehendernagar, and Pokhra on the foot of Nepal and for other places he would decide there and then. In spite of all our desires he is unable to remain in our contact while he is on a preaching mission in restricted places. When he returns we know he is alive. Kindly pray for his mission and that he may return well with us.

The Mission: The mission of our preaching work starting from June 2, 1981, will be shared by 20 persons in four groups of five each. We will cover the remotest places called Phulwari, Cherapani, Champawat, Lohaghat, Abot Mount, Pithoragarh, Berinag, Bageshwar and the interior of Almora in our State of Utter Pradesh which has the largest population among all the states

(Continued on Page 15)

HOME MISSIONS REPORT

by Taylor Hill

I. Two new missions started recently:
   A. **New Mission in Rocky Mount,** North Carolina, co-sponsored by the State Mission Board and the Central Conference. The pastor is Edward L. Thornton, Route 3, Box 22, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580; phone, 747-5792. He has a wife, Brenda; daughter, Rebecca, 12; daughter, Beverely, 8; and son, Neal, 2½.
   B. **New Mission near Advance,** North Carolina; pastor, Jerry Campbell, Route 4, Box 270, Advance, North Carolina 27006; phone, 998-5766. He has a wife, Betty; daughter, Sheri, 15; and daughter, Mona, 14.

II. Older Missions:
   A. **Victory Mission,** Hope Mills, North Carolina; self-supporting, owns place of worship; pastor, Charles N. Parrish, Route 1, Box 65-B, Parkton, North Carolina 28371; phone, 424-3713.
   B. **Haymount Mission,** Fayetteville, North Carolina; self-supporting, owns property; pastor, Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305; phone, 485-3980.
   C. **Heritage Mission,** Charlotte, North Carolina; owns property, Margaret Wallace and Sam Newell Streets in Charlotte; needs pastor. Call Clayton Everett, (704) 366-8632 or Taylor Hill, 485-3980.
   D. **Catalpa Mission,** Fayetteville, North Carolina, 5215 Catalpa Road; owns place of worship; pastor, Alton Howard; phone, 424-3844. Self-supporting.
   E. **Cape Colony Mission,** Edenton, North Carolina; owns property. Pastor, Ronnie Mohn, Box 812, Edenton, North Carolina 27932; phone, 482-8208.
   F. **Agape Mission,** Raleigh, North Carolina, 208 St. Mary Street; pastor, Ronnie Hall, 422 Barbour Street, Clayton, North Carolina 27520; phone, 553-6070.
   G. **Eastover Mission,** Fayetteville, North Carolina, 5 miles north of Fayetteville on Highway 301; owns property; pastor, W. O. Lassiter, Route 3, Four Oaks, North Carolina 27524; phone, 934-4816. Co-sponsored with Cape Fear Conference.
   H. **Faith Mission,** Leland, North Carolina; owns place of worship; pastor, Luther Swinson, Route 1, Box 155-A, Maple Hill, North Carolina 28454; phone, 346-8132. Co-sponsored with Eastern Conference.
   I. **Beaufort Mission,** Beaufort, North Carolina, Queen Street across from Beaufort School; owns property; pastor, James H. Gurganus, Route 3, Box 64, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone, 223-5251. Co-sponsored with Eastern Conference.

III. Mission Outreach Program for the Deaf: Summer Deaf Camp coming up in July. It will be held at Eagles Nest the week of July 13. It will be directed by Dale and Jasmine Albertson and friends.

IV. Home Missions personnel:
   A. Taylor Hill, director-treasurer, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305; phone, 485-3980 or 485-4471.
   B. Dean Kennedy, promotional assistant, Route 2, Box 297-A, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572; phone, 568-3732.
   C. Treva Kennedy, bookkeeper, Route 2, Box 297-A, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572; phone, 568-3732.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Walter M. Pollard announces that he is available for pastoral work, supply work, or is willing to work with other ministers in times of sickness or vacation. His address is 111 Glenwood Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; phone 756-2211 (night), 752-3310 (day).

The Rev. Gurney R. Chase announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. Any church desiring his services may reach him by writing to him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501 or phoning 523-3429.

The Rev. Bobby Brown has resigned as pastor of Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church as of May 24, after 4 years of service and will be available to supply, hold revivals, or will consider pastoring any church to which the Lord shall lead Him to go. If you would like to contact him, write Route 1, Box 266-A, Cove City, North Carolina 28523; phone (919) 633-3792. He is an ordained minister in good standing with the Eastern Conference.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 12

GOD'S WORDS IN OUR HEARTS

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 6: 4-15

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4, 5

I. INTRODUCTION

In the desk drawer, within arm's reach, there is a bag of candy. Already I have eaten two pieces. I like it. More than once I have told myself that I should diminish my intake of such sweets, and I have done so, at times. (In this regard, I am somewhat like the smoker to whom a friend spoke of the difficulty of quitting the habit. "Oh, I wouldn't say it is difficult," he replied, "I've quit ten times already.") When I purchase the candy, I resolve to eat it sparingly. But once it is so readily at hand, I reach for it again and again, almost without a thought. My better judgment tells me to do otherwise, yet I go on eating.

In an entirely different context, yet not altogether without parallel, Jesus said to His disciples, "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41). Who has not experienced the truth of this observation? Even so great a saint as the Apostle Paul said of himself, "For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do" (Romans 7:19). And Paul proceeds to discuss the continuing warfare between the flesh and the spirit.

The term *flesh* is used in the Bible with various meanings. Frequently it signifies no more than the physical being, and as such it is not considered as evil. Christ himself came "in the flesh." However, the Scriptures recognize the flesh as the earthly part of man, in contrast with the spirit. As such, it has its lusts and its desires (Ephesians 2:3). And if it is permitted to control the life, the result can only be ruin, for "to be carnally minded is death" (Romans 8:6). Contrasted with the physical is the spiritual nature of man. ". . . to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6).

Life and peace we desire. We want our lives to bear the fruit of the Spirit and not the dreadful works of the flesh (see Galatians 5:19-23). But how do we attain to this kind of life? How do we bring our bodies under subjection to the Spirit? God's grace provides various helps. One of them is the subject of our study for today: *God's Words in Our Hearts.* **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In last Sunday's lesson we studied the Ten Commandments as God gave them to Israel through Moses; today we study "God's Word in Our Hearts." There is a vital connection here. The Ten Commandments were the very heart of the Hebrew Bible. In fact, at the time they were given, they were probably all of the Word of God that the people had. In this week's lesson, God tells them through Moses how to use this Word. Of course, today we have both the Old and the New Testaments, but the same advice that God gave Israel through Moses regarding His Word is applicable.

B. Someone has pointed out that there are several places that all of us need God's Word. First, we need God's Word in the hands. It is important that every person—man, woman and child have his own personal Bible. Second, we need God's Word in our hearts.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In his enthusiastic praise of the Word of God, the psalmist cried, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11). He knew that as long as God's Word was in his heart he would not sin against his Lord. He knew the importance of what he allowed to dwell in his heart, and how important it was to follow the clear dictates of a Spirit-filled heart. He said, "With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments" (Psalm 119:10).

B. This was what God wanted His people to say as they prepared to enter Canaan, and He wanted them to mean what they said. But two things had to be done first: (1) They had to recognize that Jehovah was the only true God, that there was none other beside Him. (2) They had to learn to love Him with all the powers of their being, for in loving God this way, they would know how to love their neighbors—fellow Hebrews—as God wanted them to.

C. Other instructions would be coming to them as Moses continued his words as found in Deuteronomy, but none would be more important than the lessons he taught them in the Bible text for today. They have an equal important for us; so let us turn to them without delay and learn their truths for our lives.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

RELIGION OF A SOUND MIND

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

A mentally healthy religion can be one of the vital forces in the healing of persons or it can contribute to the immaturity, guilt, isolation, fear, and rage of crippled souls.

This is what the Rev. Frank R. Harrison told Mount Olive College summer school students in a recent weekly chapel service.

"Religion, and in particular the Christian faith, can be distorted in ways that cause it to hurt, rather than heal; to block, rather than to stimulate personality growth," Mr. Harrison said. "Religion can be used as a club or it can be used as a constructive, creative, healing, life-affirming force, vital to any meaningful human existence."

As a text for the sermon entitled "Religion of a Sound Mind," Mr. Harrison used 2 Timothy 1:7 which says, ". . . God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Mr. Harrison suggested a number of questions that can be used as tests for a mentally healthy religion.

First, does a particular form of religious thought and practice build bridges or barriers between people?

"What religion does to interpersonal relationships is the acid test of religion," he said. Does it isolate one group from another or does it seek to draw them together in relationships? Exclusivism that comes from being super-religious does not belong to the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Second, does a particular form of religious thought and practice stimulate or hamper the growth of inner freedom and personal responsibility?

"We can put this another way. Does religion encourage healthy or unhealthy dependency relationships?" he said. "There are those persons in our society who need a 'big daddy figure' in religion. Those who gravitate toward this system very often become anchored in their immaturity, and fail to move forward in their spiritual and emotional development."

The third test is: Does a particular form of religion move people from guilt to forgiveness?

"Moralism is most often concerned with controlling surface behavior and arousing guilt. Personally, I do not get very excited listening to someone condemn everything and everybody in the world."

Mr. Harrison stressed that a healthy Christian faith is primarily concerned with moving individuals from their sins to an experience of the reality of God's forgiveness as proclaimed in Jesus Christ.

A fourth test is: Does a particular form of religious thought and practice handle the vital energies of sex and aggression in a constructive or repressive way?

"When persons label these drives as 'bad' in themselves, they must either deny their existence through repression or stagger under a deadening load of guilt."

Mr. Harrison emphasized that a positive Christian view of sex holds that it is "God-given and to be used appropriately as any of God's gifts."

Finally, does a particular form of religious thought and practice foster and encourage the acceptance of reality or the denial of it?

"A mature religion recognizes the world as God's creation and that all truth is God's truth," Mr. Harrison said. "The danger of escapism is that it depicts the world as not good and that a relationship with God can occur only in the next world."

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, on Sunday, July 5, at 11 a.m.

News from the

Retirement Homes

"STATE COTTAGE FOR THE RETIRED"

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

Plans for the proposed State Cottage for the Retired continue to move forward. Plans are being made to allow our people to have an input into the plan for their ministry at the State Convention this year. Many good suggestions have already come from our people across the state.

Brochures are available upon request. Individuals are available to visit your church or group to familiarize our people with this project. Call or write for a presentation today.

Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**

LITTLE CREEK CHURCH HAS PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY



Hagar Blanchard, left, the Rev. Frank Flowers, Jackie, and Leigh

The Rev. Frank Flowers, formerly of Kenly, was recently honored at a "Frank Flowers and Family Appreciation Day."

The event, sponsored by Little Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden, North Carolina, was held in appreciation of Mr. Flowers' service to the church and to Christ. He began preaching at Little Creek church Easter Sunday, 1979, and continues to serve as pastor of that church.

The appreciation occasion was a surprise event and was structured similar to the "This Is Your Life" television program. Many of the significant events and people associated with his life thus far were highlighted.

Individuals representing various groups of people (family and churches) told Mr. Flowers how much they appreciated him and the things he had done and was now doing. Several letters were read from special people who could not attend the occasion.

Some of the highlighted remarks made regarding Mr. Flowers included: He was born and raised in the Kenly community, attended and graduated from the Kenly School, and is the son of Mrs. Nina Flowers and the late Henry "Tan" Flowers. He is married to the former Jackie Kirby, also of Kenly, and they have one daughter, Leigh. The family now resides at Route 1, Goldsboro, North Carolina. He owns and manages Southern Communications and Electronics, Inc., Goldsboro, North Carolina, which was established in 1968.

Prior to accepting the call to the ministry, Mr. Flowers was active in Stoney Creek church in Goldsboro. He taught the high school and college age Sunday school class and was active in the Layman's League.

Since being ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister in 1971, he has served as "supply" pastor and pastor of several churches which include Free Union church, Pinetown; Jackson Heights, Kinston; King's Cross Roads, Farmville; and Free Union church, Walstonburg. He also preaches at many Free Will Baptist church revivals each fall and spring throughout eastern North Carolina.

In recognition of this special day, Little Creek church presented to the Flowers family a silver tray that had been appropriately engraved to fit the occasion, a memory book that listed all the people who attended, and a bound copy of the prepared remarks about Flowers, and the letters. Lunch was served on the church grounds following the morning worship service and the special appreciation program.

Receiving special recognition were Mrs. Nina Flowers, Frank's mother; and Mrs. Luther Kirby, Jackie's mother; both of Kenly. Others in attendance were family members and personal friends of both Frank and Jackie, and school, business, and church friends.

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Beaufort County) is in need of a pastor for first and third Sundays. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Billy Gurkin by writing Route 5, Box 407, Greenville, North Carolina 27834, or phone 758-2676 after 6 p.m.

Davis Free Will Baptist Church in Carteret County is in search of a full-time pastor. It is in the Eastern Conference. If interested please contact Mr. Milton Styron, Davis, North Carolina 28524, phone 729-1741 or Mr. Joe Williams, Davis, North Carolina 28524, phone 729-3631.

AUXILIARY WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Bertha Smith Harper, known to many as "Big Ma," has been chosen by Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary, Deep Run, North Carolina, as its Auxiliary Woman of the Year. She was honored during church services on Mother's Day with most of her family in attendance.

Our Auxiliary Woman of the Year has been a faithful member of her church and her auxiliary and she has rendered service to her fellowman. "Big Ma" has been a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Her love and devotion to God, her family and her community has been an inspiration to everyone who knows her. Any time there is a death or sickness in the community, she can be counted on to be there with food and a kind word. She visits the hospital, nursing homes, the sick and the shut-ins in our community regularly.

"Big Ma" was born October 18, 1907, the first of seven children born to Ernest and Janie Smith. On November 26, 1925, at the age of 18, she married Wendell Elton Harper, known to many as "Tete Pa." They had four daughters: Edna Louise, Nanie Pearl, Janie Carol, and Joyce Ann. She has thirteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

"Big Ma" has been a faithful member of Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church for sixty years, having joined at the age of 13 and we know she has been an auxiliary member for at least 55 years. What a track record for a faithful servant!

We, at Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church, are very thankful that God sent "Big Ma" our way. The Lord has been her Shepherd through many trials and heartaches and she has returned His love and faithfulness by being a good and faithful servant for many, many years. May God continue to bless and keep "Big Ma" in His loving care.

Sue Sutton
Deep Run Auxiliary

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world . . . (Matthew 28:20).

SATURDAY, JULY 11

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 2:1-16

THE SHARPENED AXE

As Dr. Chalmers of Edinburgh contemplated sending his son to college, a friend said to him, "Don't do it. The times are too urgent. Send him to the fields which are white unto harvest."

Dr. Chalmers said, "Who accomplishes the most—the man who goes into the forest with a dull axe and works all day, or the man who stays home long enough to sharpen his axe and then spends the rest of the day chopping trees?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed . . . (2 Timothy 2:15).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 10)

of India, about 11 million. Eighty-two percent of this population live in the rural areas; most of them are ignorant about their Saviour.

We request your prayers for His great blessings at this time in these difficult situations.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall

The New Mutual Benevolent Fund

The new Mutual Benevolent Fund (MBF) is a Free Will Baptist program which offers medical and hospital income benefits to Free Will Baptist people. Inflationary medical expenses concern us all, and the MBF affords savings comparable to any other insurance company's.

The program was presented and explained fully in the May 20 and 27 issues of *The Free Will Baptist*. If you would like more information about the MBF, fill out the form below and send it to the following address: MBF, Box 10369, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27532.

MBF
Box 10369
Goldsboro, NC 27532

I am interested in this program. Please send me more information.

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Address _____ Phone _____
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Church You Attend _____
(Name)

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The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Vacation Parable

And it came to pass as vacation time drew near, that a man's thoughts were filled with visions of cool streams where large fish were known to swim. His children talked of building sand castles on coastal shores, while his wife spoke often of the western Carolina mountains.

And calling his family to his side the gentleman said, "Lo, the heat of summer has arrived. Come, let us depart and go where the fishes do bite and the cool winds blow. The land is beautiful and our spirits will be refreshed."

"Words of wisdom you do speak," his wife replied. "But several things we must do 'ere we depart."

"Three things I can think of," the man answered. "We must seek our neighbor's help with the flowers. The lad down the street will surely mow and water our grass. Last of all, we will have our mail forwarded. Nothing else comes to mind . . . ."

"Oh, there is another; it is like the three, only greater," the woman said. "Open your checkbook and write a check, for our tithe must be paid. Let us preserve the good name of our church and make the heart of our church treasurer glad; and it will be well with thee. For verily I say unto you, thou dost have more money now than you will when thou will return—and return we must before too long. We need the fellowship of our dear brethren. How our pastor's heart will be glad when the summer slump is over!"

Sobered by his good wife's words, the man replied, "Verily, thou art noble and wise among women."

And he did pay his tithe—and the treasurer rejoiced. The family did soon return; and the pastor said, "There are those who care for the good of the church."

And it was so.

Cover Photo by Gene Ahrens

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Acting Editor
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ON BEING A PK . . .

by the Rev. Beverly Ballard

Have you ever heard of a "PK?"

Since FDR, we have dealt with a lot of initials. There were the NRA, the CCC, and WPA, and numerous others. After the Roosevelt era, we find people constantly turning the names of organizations into initials. There are the PTO, the FHA, the FFA, and FAA, the AFL, the CIO, plus so many we would hesitate to list them here. During World War II, we had the APO, the FPO, the USO, the USN, the USA, the USCG, the USMC, and a whole lot of military-connected organizations. Many of these remain, along with so many that I am told the United States Bureau of Statistics has a whole registry filled with them.

A PK is merely a "preacher's kid" (if you did not know) and I am sure many of our readers are FWBPKs, sons or daughters of Free Will Baptist preachers.

My father, the late Rev. Loy E. Ballard, was an active Free Will Baptist preacher for more than 60 years. One of my first remembrances was going with Dad to hold services in a small mountain Free Will Baptist church near Barnardsville, North Carolina. My memory is sparked by an incident that involved me personally during that visit.

I was just at the age when I was beginning to notice little girls. Several young people were grouped near the back of the small, dimly-lit building. I marched down the aisle with Dad to sit on the front bench of what they called "the amen corner." I felt the eyes of everyone on me as I went up front.

I sat down. But, I got up quicker than I sat. I had plopped down on two large wasps and they did not like it. They retaliated. Wow! It hurt, but I dared not show my feelings. After all, I was the son of the visiting preacher. I sat back down, grinned, and bore it. No one learned of my plight, until we had gotten back to where we were to spend the night; then my mother learned of the stings.

All my life, there was that underlying exhortation: "Be an example, Son. It is expected of a preacher's offspring." There was a Sunday morning at Hazel Green Free Will Baptist Church near West Asheville, North Carolina, when I set an example. It was one for which I paid dearly, though. Some beautiful cement railings had recently been installed beside a long set of steps. It was during the depression when new clothing was hard to come by. That day I was wearing the pants that Mom had recently bought for me.

As soon as the service was over, I raced out to slide on the cement railings. My parents were busy fellowshiping with the parishioners. This gave me time to play, but my play was costly. I slid down the cement with a great deal of joy. Other youngsters joined me. After all, what the preacher's son did must be all right. I slid until I wore a hole in my new pants. Later, I felt as if I had holes in my hide because Mom took a switch to me.

To understand fully some of the frustrations a PK can be faced with, you must be one. For instance, I was very frustrated over the handling of "offerings" in the churches. When I sometimes accompanied Dad to a small church, he gave me a nickel and lectured me on the giving of "tithes and offerings." He told me that the more we gave God, the more He gave back to us. I accepted this with some question, but I trusted him, believing Dad wouldn't steer me wrong.

Later, after most of the handful of people who attended church that day had left, Dad was meeting with the church treasurer and I stood by, waiting to see how much had been placed in the collection plate. There was my nickel, two pennies, and a button. In those days, it was understood that the preacher would take home the collection for his services. The man handed Dad the seven cents. (Later, without my knowing it, someone slipped Dad a dollar bill.) Seeing the small offering frustrated me. I remembered what Dad had said. This prompted me to say, matter-of-factly, "Dad, if you had put more in, you would have gotten more out!"

Of course, there were those times when I have been very proud to be a PK. In fact, I almost overdid my pride on one occasion. Dad was preaching in an old storehouse that had been converted for use as a mission. Mom had sung during the service. Afterwards, I walked out onto the grounds with some others of my age (about 12) and one of the girls came to me and said she had really enjoyed my daddy's sermon and my mother's singing. I felt elated. I was still on this

(Turn the Page)

ego trip when one of the fellows, a tall, slender guy, walked over and snidely remarked, "I can't understand your dad. His preaching is odd. And, I wish your mother would learn how to sing." This sparked the fight in me. I was ready to beat him up right on the spot, but he ran. I pursued, with all the other kids behind us. I finally caught my adversary in a cornfield at the foot of a hill, a block or so from the mission.

We braced for a fight. First, we went round and round sizing up each other, with fists balled and ready. I saw immediately I was at a disadvantage because the other guy had a longer reach. So, I knew I had to overcome the disadvantage by using my weight, which I had more of than any other kid on the block. He reached out and struck me in the chest, but that didn't hurt. I grabbed his arm and managed to throw him down to the ground. I got atop him and thought I'd just stay there until he gave up, but he had other plans. He was a sly one. He slipped out from under me and while I was getting up, he came jabbing at my body. Somehow, I sidestepped and caught him in the nose with my fist and the blood started flowing.

The battle was over. I was the victor. My parents' critic ran home, holding a hanky over his nose. He was frightened by the blood. I was a hero to the other kids, but my victorious feeling was short-lived. I couldn't quite understand why I got punished that day. I was fighting for Mom and Dad, but Dad said I was wrong to fight on Sunday just outside the House of God, where he preached: "Keep the Sabbath holy."

Children can be embarrassing to their parents in any walk of life, but perhaps this is more frequently true in the lives of parents who deal with the public. It certainly was true of my preaching parents. There were times when I wanted "to be just one of the kids." I was one of those times that my mother "turned the tables" on me by embarrassing me as much or more than she had been embarrassed moments before as she spoke before the church group. Mom stopped in the middle of a sentence. She looked up and heard noises coming from the group of kids surrounding me. Instead of making a general approach to the situation by asking all of us to be quiet, she singled out her son. She asked me to come up front and sit on the front seat. I did so, but I was wishing the floor would open up and swallow me.

I made up for it, though, I'm sure. On an occasion when one of the members of Dad's church invited us over, along with others in the church, to celebrate an anniversary, I went along rather reluctantly. I knew I'd probably be the only child at the party, except the host's daughter. I was at the age that while I liked to be noticed by the girls, outwardly I wanted them to know I didn't like "sissies." The party went on and I sat in my corner, quietly. Then they got ready to serve the refreshments. I slipped out to the kitchen and noticed a mousetrap with its catch still in it. Now, if there is anything Mom was afraid of, it was mice. She had been known to faint upon seeing one. I never wanted to hurt Mom, but I did want someone to notice the preacher's boy. I picked up the trap and released the mouse. I picked up the dead animal by its tail and walked into the dining-living area of the home. I had no trouble getting through the traffic. The ladies were moving out of my path, some screaming, some just moving. I halted my progress in front of where Mom was seated. She took a look at what I was holding and dropped her refreshments and fell over. Dad ushered me out with my mouse to the back porch. He left me there long enough to return and revive Mom. The evening was ruined. The next day, I was hardly able to sit at the table long enough to eat dinner.

They say that a boy shows his likes and dislikes about his father's occupation by the decision he makes for his own future. I had great admiration for Dad's preaching. The fact is that when I was only 10, a couple of years after my conversion, I would stand in front of a mirror and preach. My parents caught me at this once and they always encouraged me to do "God's will." Well, those early experiences and desires to be a minister passed off my mind with the advent of World War II. While serving Uncle Sam in the United States Navy, I began to think again about the ministry. One thing about "being a preacher" that haunted me was the hard life, the poor economic situations facing preachers. My natural instinct was to turn away from the notion that I should preach. I tried to run away from this calling. I had received my call to preach before entering the Navy. It came while I was a prep student at Toccoa Falls Bible Institute, Toccoa, Georgia.

My escape route was cut off when God directed me to such men as "Uncle Bill" Everette, my beloved pastor at St. Mary's church in New Bern, North Carolina; the Rev. J. W. Alford from Morehead City; the Rev. Willet L. Moretz of Swannanoa; the Rev. J. Randall Bennett of Bridgeton; the Rev. J. R. Davidson, and others in addition to my own father.

These great men of God did little things and said little things to encourage me in my walk with Christ. Each, in his own way, impressed upon me that I should "give in to" the call into service for the Lord. I was ordained. But, it was my preacher dad who helped me in following the call to the ministry.

Thank God for being a PK!

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN SO SOON?

Matthew 9:36-38

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

"But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

"THE HARVEST TRULY IS PLENTEOUS . . ."

Jesus gave a commandment many years ago that we seem to have forgotten. This commandment was for us to ask for help in the harvest. Are we keeping this commandment as He asked us to or have we forgotten? When was the last time that you prayed this prayer? When was the last time that you even heard anyone mention this to the Father in their prayers?

If the harvest was great when Jesus was on earth, how much greater is it today? The population is so much greater today than then. The greater the population, the greater the harvest. Even now the population is increasing at an alarming rate. But still there are far fewer reached for Christ than are being born in the same time span. The harvest is plenteous and increasing.

"THE LABOURERS ARE FEW . . ."

Surely we can see a decline in the laborers that are preparing to work in the harvest. There is a growing need for laborers that are willing to go out and work in the harvest. There is a great need for laborers in the local churches. The need is so great that some churches have adopted the policy of choosing men as deacons who only have a nodding acquaintance with the biblical qualities of life that are essential to that kind of labor. Still we have not fulfilled the commandment that Jesus gave. Is it possible that God's people have forgotten the commandment that He gave?

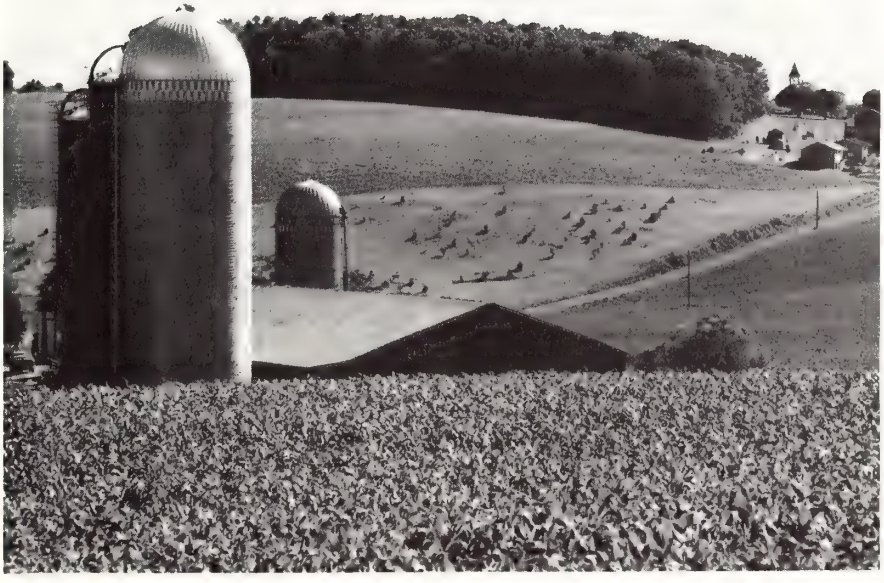
HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THE PEOPLE?

The command that Jesus gave grew out of His concern for the people. The fulfillment of that command may depend on us being filled with that same concern that Jesus had. Do we possess His compassion? What do we see and how do we feel as we look on the multitudes? Our response is frustration . . . disgust . . . anger . . . and occasionally envy . . . . But do we ever have compassion? Jesus saw them with compassion; because He saw them as sheep having no shepherd. It is a difficult word picture for the world to see, because they do not live in a pastoral nation. Do we see them as Jesus saw them or have we forgotten the people?

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THE PRAYER?

Have we forgotten the people? Then we have forgotten the prayer. Then we have not prayed for laborers. Nothing less than prayer will produce the laborers that are needful. It is not natural to give up self-serving to become a laborer for His harvest, it's supernatural. It's contrary to the world to give up "loving things and using people" and become one who "loves people and uses things." Only those that have been moved by prayer can answer, "I will," when asked,

(Continued on Page 9)





SUNDAY, JULY 12

Scripture Reading—John 3:1-21

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

Said A. J. Toynbee, renowned historian, "The spiritual progress of individuals in this life will in fact bring with it much more social progress than could be attained in any other way."

PRAYER THOUGHT

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit (John 3:5).

MONDAY, JULY 13

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:9-20

FROM KITTY HAWK TO VENUS

Said Dr. Orley R. Herron to the Wheaton College student body, "We have advanced in this century from Kitty Hawk to Venus, but cannot reconcile our black neighbor with our white. We have developed the most devastating arsenal in the history of mankind, but cannot annihilate the ghetto. Our scientists have conquered disease; but hatred and passion control many men of ill will, and millions die each year and have not accepted God's provision for redemption. We must not face-rate society but try to heal it. That healing must be accomplished by Christ in your lives."

PRAYER THOUGHT

In Christ there is no East or West, In Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love, To show His glories forth.
In Him do true hearts ev'rywhere, This sweet communion find;
His service do we gladly share, In love to all mankind.

TUESDAY, JULY 14

Scripture Reading—Psalm 40:1-8

IF IT AGREES WITH MINE

A neighbor lady offered to take care of a little girl while her mother was in a hospital for some two weeks. Before entering the hospital, the mother wrote out a list of food which her girl liked. Then she told the child, "My dear, eat what our kind neighbor prepares for you and thank her."

The little girl thought for a moment and then said, "I'll eat what she gives me, if she gives me what I like."

How like that little girl are many of God's children. They say, "I'll do your will, dear Lord, if it agrees with mine!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart (Psalm 40:8).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

Scripture Reading—Matthew 20:20-28

"TO GOD BE THE GLORY!"

Said Lillian Dickson, a missionary to Formosa, "You can usually do anything in this world that you want to do and that needs doing, if you don't care who gets the credit for it."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant (Matthew 20:27).

THURSDAY, JULY 16

Scripture Reading—Matthew 17:14-20

CREAM AND SKIM MILK

Henry Ward Beecher said, "It is not good to pray cream and live skim milk."

Expect great things *from* God and undertake great things *for* God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth (Mark 9:23).

FRIDAY, JULY 17

Scripture Reading—Luke 12:16-34

NO TIME TO LIVE

A man who had been successful in business proposed this honest epitaph for his tombstone: "Born 1878, a human being; Died 1954, a wholesale grocer."

Asked by a friend, "Would you care to comment on the unusual epitaph?"

"Certainly not," he replied. "I have been so busy selling groceries and amassing riches that I have pushed practically everything else out of my life. I have been successful but so busy making a living, I never had time to live."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! (Mark 10:24).

SATURDAY, JULY 18

Scripture Reading—Luke 15:1-32

FISHING IN A BATHTUB

Said James McReynolds, "In most pulpits the Sunday sermon, no matter how evangelistic, speaks to only the 'faithful few' while the people today meet in places other than churches—on beaches, at athletic events, at parent-teacher associations, in taverns, at musical festivals, community functions, and vacation areas."

Fishing for souls in many churches is like fishing for fish in a bathtub. They aren't there.

If we would reach the unsaved, unchurched multitudes, we must emulate the example of our Saviour, who mingled with the shepherdless ones in the marketplaces, highways, and byways. We must enter feelingly and understandingly into their heartaches and heartbreaks. We must never, however, partake of their sins.

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd (John 10:16).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

IN MEMORIAM

On December 25, 1980, Mrs. Eula Jordan Clayton quietly left this earth to celebrate her Lord's birthday with Him in person.

Miss Eula Jordan was born January 6, 1892. She was married to Tibius Clayton at the age of sixteen. She was the mother of seven children, and lived her entire life in the Ransonville and Sidney communities, Route 2, Belhaven, Beaufort County.

Her grandfather, John Linton, and her uncles, Malachi and Frank Linton, were Free Will Baptist preachers. Malachi Linton organized Malachi's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia, North Carolina. John Linton organized Free Union Free Will Baptist Church and helped to organize Sidney Free Will Baptist Church where Mrs. Eula became a member when she was thirteen years old. She remained faithful to her church in attendance and service as long as her health permitted. Her home was always opened to pastors, visiting ministers, orphans, or to anyone who did not have a place to eat or sleep.

Mrs. Eula's faith in the God she loved kept her patient and kind through several years of suffering in body. She claimed every promise in God's Holy Word as her own. Two verses were her strength in her declining years. They were: ". . . as thy days, so shall thy strength be" (Deuteronomy 33:25); and "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee . . . (Isaiah 26:3). She never complained about her physical condition and always greeted with a smile all who went to visit her. She remained able to wait on herself to the end.

For over thirty years one room in her home became "hallowed ground" to us who met there with her every Monday afternoon for our prayer band meeting. There, we were enclosed from the outside world into the very presence of God, where we poured our hearts out to God for every need we felt: our pastor, our church, our community, our nation, our home and foreign missions, our families, our friends, and our foes as well. We never forgot to thank our precious Lord Jesus for answered prayer and his daily blessings. Mrs. Eula always closed our prayer meeting with a beautiful benediction that each of us agreed sealed our prayers with the Blessed Holy Spirit and love, leaving us emptied of self and filled with spiritual blessings.

No position in life is superior to that of a mother, no influence more patient for good or evil. "All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my Mother," said Abraham Lincoln. It is truly said that the home is the most hallowed and potential of all academies, and the mother is the first, the most influential, and therefore, the most important of all teachers. Every stage and phase of life is touched and influenced by her. Infancy, childhood, youth, manhood, all look to her for inspiration and advice; thus she is the evening and morning star of life.

All of us who knew and loved Mrs. Eula, join with her children in proclaiming, "Her children (and friends) arise up, and call her blessed . . ." (Proverbs 31:28).

Mrs. Katie Roper

COMING EVENTS

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 6-10—Third Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

July 6-11—Youth Frontier Conference (AFC), Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

July 12—Homecoming and Annual Alumni Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 20-23—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

July 27—August 1—Young People's Bible Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

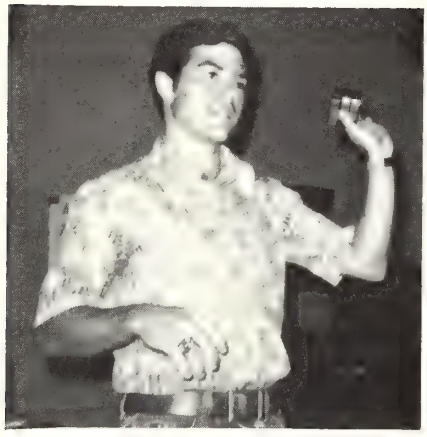
NOTICE

Carteret County Union Meeting is spearheading the Home Fund Drive for the purpose of purchasing Mrs. J. B. (Addie) Starnes a mobile home.

All money should be earmarked and sent to Mrs. Addie Starnes, 3010 Bridges Street, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557.

NEWS & NOTES

Workshop Held In Greenville Area Churches



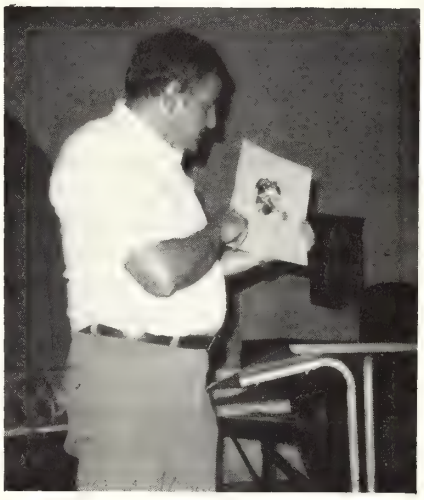
Donald Ribeiro, Winterville

A workshop for Sunday school teachers entitled "Techniques and Methods of Teaching" was recently sponsored by churches in the Greenville, North Carolina, area. Dianne Riley, associate director of admissions at Mount Olive College conducted the four meetings which rotated among the following churches: First Church, Greenville (May 4); Bethany church (May 11); Rose Hill church (May 18); and Winterville church (May 25). The average attendance was around seventy, with a number of churches participating.



Mrs. Alma Buck, Rose Hill

As a climax to the sessions, Mrs. Riley asked many of those present to demonstrate ways to enhance their teaching methods through the usage of instructional aids—hand puppets, object lessons, view masters, flannelgraph, records, "fun" choruses, shadow boxes, maps, stand-up characters, and others. (Many of these can be made at home, or purchased at the Free Will Baptist Press, for those who do not feel so creative.)



Jack Weathersby, Winterville

At Winterville, Mr. Randolph Harris, Moderator of the Second District Union Meeting of the Central Conference, gave a very timely illustration with the use of maps. Shortly after his beautiful testimony, he went to be with the Lord, and the class was never finished. This would seem a tragic way for a meeting to end, but God received glory from it. Surely the angels in Heaven rejoiced to see this servant come home. It is believed that every teacher went home realizing the uncertainty of tomorrow and the importance of reaching every student for Christ. No one ever knows when the Lord will call him home, but how beautiful if like Brother Harris, everyone could have praise on his lips; and as he said, all can "know where we are going."



Dorlis Mills, Greenville

First Church, Wilson Has Reception for Pastor



The Rev. and Mrs. Craig Simmons

An open house reception was held on Sunday, June 14, at the parsonage of First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Craig Simmons. Mr. Simmons assumed the duties of pastor at the church on May 13.

The wives of the deacons assisted throughout the afternoon in greeting the guests and in serving the refreshments.

Special out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Warren from Williamston, North Carolina, parents of Mrs. Simmons.

Receives Eagle Award



Andy Cannon

In November, 1977, 11-year-old Andy Cannon began his preparation for the future. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton A. Cannon of Route 1, Box 294-F, Ayden, North Carolina.

Andy joined Boy Scout Troop #34, sponsored by the Ayden Rotary Club. It was in that year that he began learning skills that he would need later. After finishing his First Rank of Tenderfoot in March, 1978, he began working on his Second Class Award in scouting, which he received in April, 1979.

There were sore feet from the long hikes, wet clothes, and even tents that fell during the night, which were problems that Andy had to learn to correct and prevent.

In January, 1979, he was chosen Assistant Patrol Leader. He received his next rank, the First Class Award in September, 1979. The scouts then appointed him as their Patrol Leader. His responsibility as patrol leader was to teach skills and train the scouts during weekend camping trips.

He attended Camp Herbert C. Bonner during the summer of 1979. At that time he gained skills and more merit badges which helped him achieve his rank of Star in January, 1980. Then in July, 1980, he received his Life Award. In September, 1980, he was chosen to be the Senior Patrol Leader.

At last the Eagle challenge came, a project that consisted of 100 hours of helping work in the community and church. Some of Andy's projects were: working on the church lawn, which applied to the expense of earning money for painting the secretary's office at the Ayden Methodist Church. He completed the Eagle Award in February, 1981. The Eagle Award Ceremony was on June 28, 1981, at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church on Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina.

Andy will be a tenth-grade student at Ayden-Grifton High School this fall. He is a member of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, and is active in YFA. Currently, he is working on the God and Country Award.

Andy is gratefully indebted to his scoutmaster, Terry Payne; his pastor, the Rev. C. L. Patrick; his parents, and fellow scouts for their encouragement and support.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?

(Continued from Page 5)

"Will you be a minister of the gospel for no worldly ambition and no desire for earthly gain?" Have we forgotten to pray?

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THE POTENTIAL?

Jesus always sees the potential. He saw it in those to whom He first addressed this prayer command. Some had been foul mouthed . . . some had explosive tongues . . . some specialized in petty jealousies. These were now becoming His disciples and soon would be His apostles. What a potential He had seen in them! What a potential in that multitude He was beholding! Some would see them as worthless chaff to be blown away. He saw it as grain to be harvested and stored in His Father's garner.

There is another potential that Jesus saw, and that was what moved Him with compassion. What would become of them? What becomes of grain that is not harvested? Especially grain that is "white" unto harvest as Jesus had described the multitudes. "White grain?" Isn't grain always golden? No. not when it is overripe, for then it becomes tinged with white. Then if it is not harvested, it will decay. Jesus saw the harvest as plenteous but without enough laborers. He saw it as perishing. The harvest that Jesus spoke of is still plenteous. These will perish if there are not enough laborers. Pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers.

Pray now! Pray daily! Pray without ceasing!

"I **sought** for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers, and it was not there.

"I **sought** for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests, and it was not there.

"I **sought** for the greatness and genius of America in her public school system and her institutions of learning, and it was not there.

"**Not until** I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power.

"America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

—Alexis de Tocqueville

Foreign Missions

MISSION POINT BECOMES ORGANIZED FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH



The community of Canigaran, San Miguel San Pedro on the Island of Palawan, did not have a church. Burdened by that fact and a burning desire to share Christ, Pastor Roger Malinao, licensed minister and PBI student, undertook the challenge in October, 1980. God blessed the preaching of the Word. Souls were saved and carnal Christians rededicated their lives to Christ.

In the month of November, the members erected their chapel made of simple native materials. It is a lovely chapel for the glory of God. The Sunday before Christmas, December, 1980, the chapel building was dedicated to the Lord.

God has continued to bless this work in Canigaran. The last week of April, 1981, the Canigaran Free Will Baptist Mission was officially organized into the Canigaran Free Will Baptist Church. Those taking part in the organizational service were: Pastor Roger Malinao, Pastor of the Mission; the Rev. Pio dela Rosa, Vice President, Free Will Baptist Church Philippines; and the Rev. Fred Baker, General Supervisor, Free Will Baptist Church Philippines.

Please remember this young church in your prayers. Pray for the lost of this community. Pray for the believers to be rooted and built-up in the Word of God. Pray for the leaders of this church.

Thank you for standing faithful with us here in the Philippines with your prayers and support.

The Baker Family

AUTHORITY TO SOLEMNIZE MARRIAGE GRANTED

Authority to solemnize marriage has been granted by the Philippine Government to the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines. This authorization was recently granted in March, 1981.

Each ordained minister may now submit a copy of his Certificate of Ordination, an application and a letter of recommendation to the National Library to be registered. The National Library issues the minister a beautiful certificate which authorizes him to solemnize marriage.

The right of our pastors to solemnize marriage has truly been a step forward for Christ. We can better serve our people by being able to help them in this vital area. This simple accomplishment has taken years to complete. We do not claim the praise for this accomplishment, for the praise belongs to God who has brought it to pass. To Him be glory and honor for ever and ever.

Thank each of you for your help in this, the Lord's Kingdom. Your prayers are being heard before the throne. Your support is greatly appreciated. May God bless you is our prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
The Baker Family
Fred, Linda, Kim and Stevie

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Jack Lassiter has a new address, 1212 South Tarboro Street, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone, 291-8443. He assumed the pastorate at Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Bailey, North Carolina, on July 5.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor announces that he now has a new address. It is P.O. Box 455, Pikeville, North Carolina 27863; phone, 242-4167.

DO WE REALLY SEE?

submitted by Frank Harrison

Someone, it is reported, once said to Helen Keller: "Isn't it terrible to be blind?" Miss Keller replied, "It is more terrible to have eyes and not see!"

As sight never penetrates far without becoming *insight,* so insight never achieves depth and usefulness without the agency and aid of the Holy Spirit. Am I not right in feeling that we tend to emphasize those biblical references in which the Holy Spirit's presence is associated with *power?* Do we not appear to be less fascinated by the passages in which His presence is associated with *vision, perception, knowledge?* In a beautiful Isaiah prophecy we are told that He will be to the Messiah the Spirit of "wisdom" and "understanding," "counsel" and "knowledge."

In Ephesians the Apostle Paul relates this enlightening ministry of the Spirit to the life of the Christian community. Since He is the Spirit of "wisdom and of revelation," He will "enlighten" its members and they will "know."

Significant *seeing* is an art that moves in two directions: the discovery of the extraordinary in the ordinary and the discovery of the ordinary in the extraordinary. Let's illustrate that claim. Take Elizabeth Barrett Browning's verse:

Earth's crammed with Heaven
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees takes off his shoes,
The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries . . . .

There is the disclosure of the extraordinary in the ordinary. The glory of Heaven aflame in a garden bush! If there are eyes to behold it!

The second claim—that insight consists also in discovering the ordinary in the extraordinary—may be seen in our Lord's act of washing the feet of His disciples. The superlatively extraordinary background fact was announced by John in the words, "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God . . . !" But then came the astoundingly ordinary service, normally reserved for slaves, of washing the feet of guests who had come for supper.

The incident ends with a query: "Do you *know* what I have done to you?" Do you *see* the meaning of it? It is not ours to say exactly how much or how little they saw in that moment. With greater confidence we can say that later, when they were filled with the Spirit, meanings that were vague became clear, people who were remote from them were drawn near, tasks that were half-apprehended claimed them with compelling conviction.

In the history of the Church's world mission we have come to a time when, in the view of many of us, we need a new realization of what the Holy Spirit offers us in a ministry of enlightenment. We need a new openness to contemporary reality in mission, a fresh way of perceiving *where we are, what to do and how to do it.* The central certainties of our faith may be clear enough. They should be. But that is not the point. Eyes that are open to theological propositions about Christ are not necessarily eyes that are open to the living Christ himself and His beckoning hand in this crucial and confused hour.

Specifically, if you are a Sunday morning pew-holder and a furloughing missionary is your speaker, are you perceptive enough to realize that in 20 or 30 minutes it is impossible for him (or her) to give a balanced and realistic portrayal of the situation on which he is reporting?

The problem goes even deeper. Are you sufficiently "with it"—informed and sensitized—to understand that even a highly seasoned and knowledgeable Western missionary is simply unable to convey to you all of the subtleties and ambiguities, the tensions and trends, that bear significantly on the communication of the evangel in today's Third World?

Or, if you are on the missionary committee of your local church do you see, perceive, understand that in countries (Burma, for example) from which all missionaries have been withdrawn, new links must be forged between your congregation and the Christian nationals who are there in their sole responsibility for evangelism and church growth? The fact that *our* missionaries have been expelled should never leave us drained of interest in, or support for, the Christians who remain.

Or, if you are a mission agency executive, do you see, perceive, understand the changeful, even revolutionary, mission scene today with enough clarity to admit the restless, probing state of mind in which you should find yourself? Do you feel that your vision is sharp enough to make you more open to people and to people-needs than you are to traditions and structures and precedents?

Let's be open to the Holy Spirit for the very good reason that it is He who gives us openness to the living Lord on the one hand and to people on the other.

—Paul S. Rees

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (April, 1975).

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 19

GOD CHOSE ISRAEL

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 6:20-25; 7:6-11

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 7:6

I. INTRODUCTION

Camped on the plains of Moab, overlooking the Jordan Valley and the Promised Land beyond, the people of Israel received instruction and exhortation from Moses. This man of God would not be permitted to enter the land with them, but would be buried in Moab. Knowing this, Moses, filled with the Spirit, recalled to the minds of his hearers the marvelous works of the Lord on their behalf and their obligation to be faithful to Him.

Included in our lesson, at least in a measure, is the basic message of the Book of Deuteronomy in its various facets. Moses stressed the grace and power of God as evidenced in His dealings with Israel. (God had been and still was active in the history of this people.) God had given them a law such as no other nation on earth possessed, and this law was a great blessing. Furthermore, God had bestowed on Israel the rare privilege of being called to be His special people. Corollary to all of this was the necessity for the people to meet the responsibility that such great privilege laid upon them. Moses would impress upon them the fact that they were, indeed, a people chosen of God. He would also exhort them to live as the people of God ought to live.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Everyone of us knows from a study of God's Word that God chose Abraham, and that through him He chose the Hebrews to be His special people. We may have some ideas about why God wanted a special people, a people that would be a witness to Him and bring glory to His name, but why did he choose Abraham instead of some other person?

B. The only answer to this question is in the sovereignty of God. God is all-powerful and all-knowing; therefore, His conduct is beyond the comprehension of man. Also, we must remember that as the Creator, He had the right and the ability to do with each individual what He pleases. This seems to be about as much as we can understand about this matter.

C. Then we might ask another question: Why did the Lord choose to send His Son as the redeemer so that all men who will believe upon Him might be saved? Because of God's wisdom and power, He could have devised some other way for the salvation of mankind, and why He decided to do it through His Son is beyond our understanding.

D. The Jews were chosen through Abraham; therefore all one had to do was be a descendant of Abraham and he was one of God's chosen people. The Jews failed to do what God wanted them to do. So then God's Son came to earth and gave Himself that the Father might have a special people in this generation. We are chosen to be part of that special people by being "in Christ." How does one be "in Christ"? By believing on the Son, we become children of God and are "in Christ"; therefore, we are one of God's special, chosen people. This is a truth that we should remember as we study this lesson.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. As a part of their instructions before entering the land promised to them, Moses wanted the Children of Israel to reflect upon two very important matters. First, he wanted them to remember the great things God had done for them in delivering them from Egyptian bondage and bringing them safely to the Jordan, and, second, he wanted them to understand how privileged their position was in being the chosen people of God.

B. With the understanding of that privilege would come also the responsibility of behaving as the chosen people of God. Wherever they went and with whomsoever they came into contact, they must always so conduct themselves as to show they were the people of God.

C. Are not these same privileges and responsibilities ours? Through Christ we are chosen of God; we must act like Christians; and we are to obey God and serve Him daily as an evidence of our gratitude for the salvation we have received through the Son.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

I'm Elected—This matter of predestination and election has been expressed in this manner: God votes for my election; Satan votes against my election; and I have the deciding vote. If you have the deciding vote about what happens to you, how do you vote?—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

SPECIAL GIFT FOR COLLEGE HALL

Elizabeth and Sandra Newbern, members of the AFC of Hickory Chapel church near Ahoskie, earned $6 during vacation Bible school for memorizing Scripture verses. They received five cents and ten cents per verse, and decided to donate their earnings for the building of College Hall at Mount Olive College.

"In terms of the cost of the building, an estimated $2.5 million, $6 may appear a small amount of money, but to Elizabeth and Sandra it represents hard work and a great love for their church," President W. Burkette Raper announced in accepting this gift on behalf of the College.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK AT DAVIS CHURCH

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Davis Free Will Baptist Church, on Sunday, July 12, at 11 a.m.

LIVING "EAST OF EDEN"

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

Sin results in alienation from God, others, and one's self. That was the message of a recent chapel service at Mount Olive College.

Living "East of Eden" was the theme of the message preached by the Rev. Frank Harrison, Chaplain of the College.

Mr. Harrison's text was taken from Genesis 4:13-16, which records the results of Cain's murder of his brother: "Cain said to the Lord, 'My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, thou hast driven me this day away from the ground; and from thy face I shall be hidden; and I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will slay me!' "

"Then the Lord said to him, 'Not so! If any one slays Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold!' And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who came upon him should kill him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, East of Eden."

Mr. Harrison pointed out that John Steinbeck's novel, *East of Eden,* like this passage, reflects a deep understanding of the nature, drives, torments, and anguish of living. "This novel and this passage portray the feelings and experiences of life in a land where pitiful fallen human beings live in separation from God."

First, Mr. Harrison said, the account in Genesis points out that Cain had to live with what he had done. "He could not blame someone else or rationalize it away."

"How often we try to blame others for our shortcomings and mistakes," he said. "But we are accountable for our actions. We cannot blame others or simply claim that the devil made us do it.

In addition, Cain's sinful act made him a vagabond, a wanderer on the face of the earth. This symbolizes life "without roots, without a place to be, without a sense of purpose and destiny."

"The land East of Eden is a land empty of meaning," Mr. Harrison said. "Life has no purpose for the inhabitants of the land of Nod."

Mr. Harrison suggested that such a life is personified in a person like Marilyn Monroe. "Here was an individual who had all life could give in wealth and fame—but whose life was so miserable she chose to end it by suicide because her life had no purpose, no direction, and no meaning. She had only the hell of emptiness and misery."

"How graphic a picture this is of those persons who use drugs, alcohol, or something else to get away from themselves," he said. "They cannot live with themselves and this is a way out. The land of Nod is well populated in the twentieth century."

Finally, sin drives us, as it did Cain, from the face and experience of God. "But God has given us one who is the door out of the miserable, wretched land east of Eden—Jesus Christ."

"God's gift of freedom, redemption, and wholeness is to you and to all who will accept that gift by faith."

(Calvin R. Mercer Jr. is a professor in the Mount Olive College Department of Religion.)

A farmer wrote an editor:

"Dear Sir: I have been trying an experiment. I have a field of corn which I planted on Sunday. I plowed it on Sunday; I cultivated it on Sunday. I cut and hauled it to the barn on Sunday. And I find that I have more corn to the acre than has been gathered by any of my neighbors this October."

The farmer sent the letter, sure that the editor could have no answer to the sneer implied in it. But imagine his feelings when in the next issue of the paper he read his own letter in print, and at the end of it this one sentence: "God does not make full settlement in October."

—*Selected*

REDEEMING THE TIME

by Paula Hargrove



All around us in the world today are evils of all kinds. In school there are drugs to tempt boys and girls alike. It is very easy for people to follow these evil things. The Bible tells us to use our time carefully and wisely, serving God, not as foolish men, serving the devil.

As Jesus spoke a parable to the people in Matthew 22:11-14 concerning the wedding garment, do you suppose Jesus had in mind two stories told by the Rabbis which told the actions taken by wise men and foolish men?

One story tells us that a king had sent out invitations to a wedding feast. The day or time was not given, but the command to wash and put on clean clothes so that one would be ready when the feast was ready was clearly there. The wise believed that it would not take long to get ready for the feast so they started to get ready, and when ready they went to the palace and waited outside the door. But the foolish said it will take a long time for the king to prepare for a feast, so they wasted their time, and were busy making their living and having a good time. Then all at once the call from the king came without warning. Those that had redeemed their time were ready and entered into the feast. The king was pleased and there was joy as they ate and drank at the feast. Those that had not redeemed their time had to stand outside the door, hungry and sad.

The second story told of a king that gave his servants a royal robe to keep for him. The wise servants placed their robes in a safe place so that they would stay beautiful and clean. The foolish servants wore their robes to work and they were soiled with dirt. Then the king commanded the robes to be returned. The wise gave their beautiful clean royal robes back to the king. The foolish gave theirs back stained and dirty. The king had to send their robes to be cleaned. The king then commanded the servants that had been so foolish to be put into prison.

These two stories tell us that we need to redeem our time (use it wisely) by serving the Lord, also that we must give our souls back to God spotless.

God has sent out His invitations; we need to redeem the time we have, for the call will come without warning, and our souls must be clean to enter in and have joy with the Lord. The foolish and unclean will have no joy and no peace. Ephesians 5:17 says, "Therefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

I love the story in the Bible about Paul. He was a very bad person in the beginning, but after he was saved he became a good person and really worked for the Lord. He must have really been afraid when he was blinded on the Damascus Road. We have Spiritual Time at our church on Sunday nights and we were told about Paul and how he worked and won many people to the Lord. They also told us that he helped many churches to get started, and how he was mistreated because of his love for Jesus. It didn't matter that he was stoned and left for dead nor that he was put in prison. Paul loved the Lord and he was redeeming the time till his death.

It may not be easy redeeming the time in this world of ours, but that's what we Christians are supposed to do. As a little girl I can work for the Lord. I can use my time wisely winning the lost; it doesn't take a big person. Sometimes we can reach people where grown-ups can't. At school it is not easy to be a Christian. Boy! people make fun of me and put me down for being a PK (Preacher's Kid). The kids at school sometimes use bad talk and when I say that it's not nice sometimes they can really talk ugly to me. But this is one way I can use my time wisely or that I can redeem the time.

In everything at church, I take a part in the things that are for my age group; here is another way we can be redeeming the time. Spending much time reading God's Word, and praying are also good ways to redeem the time.

My dad has been telling us in our family devotions and little talks we have as a family that we must live right and do right because Jesus is soon coming back. He's coming back for those that love Him and that have been redeeming the time.

Are we really doing what Ephesians 5:16 tells us "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil?"

Paula Hargrove is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Steve Hargrove of Belhaven, North Carolina. A member of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church. Paula was declared winner of the Age 12 Essay Contest at the 1981 State Youth Convention held earlier this year.

NEWS AND NOTES

Gum Swamp Church Honors Pastor

The Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist church near Greenville, North Carolina, honored their outgoing pastor and his family with a dinner on June 14 in the church fellowship building immediately after the morning service. As a token of their love and appreciation, a gift was presented to the Taylors for their devotion, faithfulness, and dedicated services performed by them to the church during their three-year-stay with the people at Gum Swamp church.

Since the beginning of his pastorate there, both the Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Taylor have been very active in all church activities. Mrs. Taylor served as the church choir director and youth chairman. They worked lovingly, patiently, diligently, and faithfully with the young people in all of their church-related activities. The whole church has been greatly blessed by their interest in and concern for its people.

Under the leadership of Mr. Taylor, many souls have been saved and many rededicated their lives to the Lord. The people at Gum Swamp greatly admire his Bible-preaching sermons that were always soul-stirring and seemed to be filled by the Holy Spirit upon him.

In March, at the end of a quarterly business meeting, many hearts were saddened when Mr. Taylor announced his resignation to be effective the last Sunday in June. He stated that the Holy Spirit had called him to accept the pastorate of the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, North Carolina. Reluctantly, the church agreed to accept his resignation as they did not want to stand in the way of God's calling him for pastoral duties elsewhere.

To Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, the Gum Swamp people extend their thanks and appreciation for work well done, and for the Taylors' love, time, and devotion rendered during their services. They will be missed by many who received blessings from them.

Successful Bible School at Sweet Gum Grove Church

A most successful Bible school was held at Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Stokes, North Carolina, the week of June 15-19, with the classes from 7 until 9 p.m. The theme for the school was "Jesus' Beatitudes" with the theme song, "Jesus, I Believe in You."

After the students marched in, they gave pledges to the American flag, the Christian flag, and the Bible, and an offering was taken. The director of the school, Mrs. Herbert Brown, introduced the puppet, Buzzy Bee. These skits were given by Miss Donna Glisson and Mrs. Mary Jo Gandy each day. There was an average attendance of 72.

The classes were Nursery I, "Bee-Bees"; Nursery II, "Buzzy Bees"; Beginners, "Busy Bees"; Primary, "Do-Bees"; Juniors, "Bee-livers"; and Adults, "Bee-Cons."

Refreshments were served each evening in the community building near the church. A cook-out was enjoyed by those who attended on Saturday evening. The Bible school commencement was held on the following Sunday night at 7:30 p.m. The cooperation and interest shown by everyone who attended contributed to the success of the school.

PRAYER REQUEST

The Rev. James Timmons, one of our missionaries, is in the Methodist Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

The information was received by the Rev. Joe Ingram on Monday, June 29. Mr. Timmons did not state exactly what his sickness was but did ask for prayers.

The New Mutual Benevolent Fund

The new Mutual Benevolent Fund (MBF) is a Free Will Baptist program which offers medical and hospital income benefits to Free Will Baptist people. Inflationary medical expenses concern us all, and the MBF affords savings comparable to any other insurance company's.

The program was presented and explained fully in the May 20 and 27 issues of *The Free Will Baptist*. If you would like more information about the MBF, fill out the form below and send it to the following address: MBF, Box 10369, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27532.

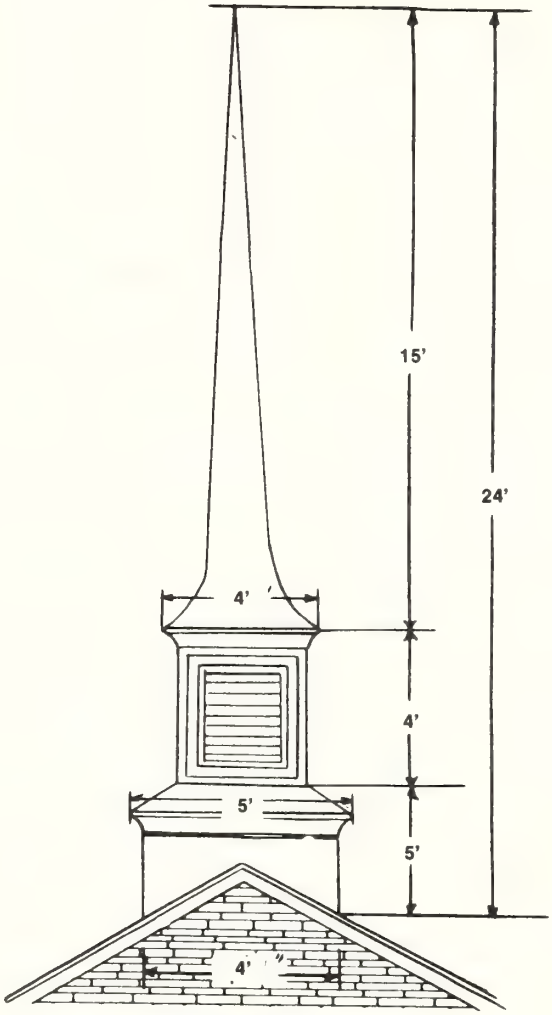
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***And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart . . .* (Mark 6:31).**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

"Come Ye Apart" or Come Apart?

From the outset, I knew that God was going to perform some of the greatest miracles I had ever experienced. As the final preparations for the 1981 session of Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week at Cragmont Assembly (June 29—July 4) were being completed, His power, strength, and love were made manifest. Few things in my life have been so rewarding as attending the Conference, for as the week progressed I watched campers (and counselors)—of all sizes, shapes, and levels of maturity—yield themselves to Christ. The only thing that could match the unending enthusiasm present was His peace and love; indecisiveness was erased by Him who is omniscient; weaknesses were overcome by Him who is all-powerful.

The experiences of the week remind me of a former acquaintance. The dear lady loved rocking chairs and quite a few of them could be found on her front porch. Many an afternoon has been spent by tired individuals—talking, resting, and rocking—on her porch. But, alternating weather conditions were not always kind to the rockers. In fact, the weather served to loosen the glued rounds in one of her favorite chairs. Then, there seemed to be nothing to do but send the chair to the repair shop. When the renovated chair was returned, the lady was ecstatic. No longer could the rocker be found on her front porch, for she made a place for it in her living room.

Many times we weather the storms of life no better than my friend's chairs did. For example, stress has a way of making us all "come apart"; and there are varying stages of disintegration—moral, emotional, physical, and spiritual. It can be seen on the face of the teenager who is told, "Get with it, man. Everybody's doing it!" The young mother expresses it when asking, "Where do those kids get so much energy?" The unremitting demands of making it in today's competitive world often cause men and women to thunder, **"I quit, I can't, yea, I won't take it anymore!"**

When Jesus' disciples became harried, He said, "Come ye apart." How ironic, for that's what we often do—come apart! (But, we come apart at the seams!) Christ invites us to lean on Him; He offers to bear our burdens, to share our load. Jesus offers help for whatever is causing us to "come apart at the seams." In Him, we become new creations.

Summer camp is often the place where the Master Repairman ministers and heals the broken spirits of young people, ladies, and ministers alike. But we do not have to trek to a mountain retreat or a river campsite, for our God is everywhere; He is not limited by location, time, or ability.

Come unto Jesus. A whole new life may lie ahead.

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Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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SUED FOR MALPRACTICE IN PREACHING

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

COULD this happen to you as a preacher? The Sunday church service is over. You are standing at the front door greeting the people as they leave. A man says, "Preacher, I'm going to sue you for today's sermon because of malpractice in preaching." Should a preacher be held responsible for what he says? *Time* has reported that thousands of churches are now carrying malpractice insurance up to $300,000 for their pastors. Now covered by the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company are 5,700 United Methodist and 1,700 Lutheran churches. To avoid lawsuits little is being said about this coverage.

Pastors are beginning to be sued for malpractice in ministry. A pastor in Little Rock, Arkansas, was sued for a million dollars by a husband who claimed the pastor's Bible teaching caused his wife to lose her affection for him. In Los Angeles a pastor is being sued by parents of a youth who committed suicide on the charge that the pastor discouraged their son from seeking professional counseling. A man in Ohio would like to sue the pastor of a faith-healing church because when he was a child his leg was severely burned but was not medically treated because faith would take care of it. For thirty years he has been trying to repair the damage at great medical expense to himself.

It is not out of the realm of probability for a preacher today to have a worshiper say after a service. "I'm going to sue you for that sermon." On what grounds could a preacher be sued for malpractice in preaching? Would your sermons be cause for being sued?

Preachers could be sued for boring people to death by their dull sermons. Some preachers are so dull that they would give even an aspirin a headache. With the help of the Holy Spirit, some preachers would not be so dull. The charge is that some preacher's sermons make worshipers miserable. It is the kind of sermon which will not keep people's minds from wandering. They cause people to squirm in the pews from restlessness and boredom. During the sermon they count the number of pipes in the organ or the number of globes in the chandeliers or whisper to their neighbors. The person who wants to sue says, "I'll sue you for malpractice in preaching because your sermon did not accomplish what it is supposed to—uplift, challenge, and inspire me."

Why do we associate sermons with dullness? Some years ago there was a newspaper story about the discovery of an ancient holy ax in Ireland. How did they know it was a holy ax? The give-away was the sentence: "The sacred character of the ax is conjectured from the absence of an effective cutting edge." Like a sermon it was dull and blunt. Maybe not so blunt as dull! Sermons are made dull by giving one generality and platitude after another. There is no touch with life today. The preacher and the content of the sermon must come alive with living realities.

Another person coming out of church may say, "I'm going to sue you for malpractice in preaching because of the heresy in your sermon." Is a preacher responsible for the content of the sermon and for the theology presented? If the teaching in the sermon is contrary to biblical theology and the doctrines of the church, is this not sufficient grounds for litigation?

Take an example. The Bible and the church teach that in and through the Incarnation, the Word became flesh. Jesus is both man and God. He is the Son of God who came to reveal the truth of God and to redeem humanity from sin. He alone is Saviour, and according to Acts 4:12, "there is salvation in no other name than Jesus." Suppose the preacher has adopted

(Turn the Page)



the heresy of Pluralism which claims that other world religions are also areas of salvation. The sermon said, "Those who say that outside Christianity is no salvation are dogmatic diehards." The preacher went on to say that the historical Jesus did not teach that He was in any sense God. Moreover, he claimed that the Incarnation was a myth.

A person listening to this kind of theology has a right to sue for malpractice in preaching. The charge could be: "You have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where to find Him. You have destroyed my confidence and assurance that Jesus is my Lord and Saviour. You have crushed my faith, and now I am a miserable doubter without hope . . . ."

"Preacher, I'm going to sue you!" another worshiper may say. The preacher asks "Why sue me? What did I say to hurt you?" The worshiper may charge: "You were not true to the text of your sermon. You said one thing, and the text said another. The theme of your sermon did not harmonize with the theme of the text. A preacher ought to tell the truth, to tell exactly what the text says and means. You used the text only as a springboard for your own ideas."

Granted, not many lay people would know that much about a text to challenge the preacher. Yet it is a serious charge on the part of those who know something about the Bible. The cardinal sin of a preacher is the non-use, misuse, or abuse of the text. How many preachers could be sued for malpractice on this basis?

We can conceive of another worshiper saying: "I came to church this morning full of hope that I would be helped. I have a problem, and I was hoping to hear a solution. I have questions that need answering. But what did I get today from your sermon? Frankly, I got nothing, I am going home worse than when I came. A minister, as I understand it, is to minister, to help his or her people. I am going to sue for malpractice because your preaching made me worse off than before I came to church."

This is a legitimate cause for suing a preacher because a sermon should help people with their problems. In every congregation there are as many needs as there are people. To fail people in their need is reason for suing.

The word will soon get around that preachers are protected by insurance against malpractice. Every preacher will be subject to a lawsuit. *Since preaching in our day is in a pathetic and deplorable condition, it will not be surprising that many suits will result.*

What can keep us preachers from being sued? Our protection is not in an insurance policy but in our fidelity to the Word. St. Paul advises, "Preach the Word" (2 Timothy 4:2). The Word can do no harm but only help, enrich, and edify every listener.

by John R. Brokhoff
(Used by permission of *Pulpit Digest*, P.O. Box 5199, Jackson, Miss. 39216.)

THE REV. R. N. HINNANT PASSES

The Rev. R. N. Hinnant died at 8:05 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 1981, at Dixon Memorial Hospital, Denham Springs, Louisiana. A native of Micro, North Carolina, Mr. Hinnant was 80 years old at the time of his death.

A Free Will Baptist minister, he served on the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. for a number of years.

Mr. Hinnant is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Harold R. (Doris Fay) Hine, Denham Springs; a grandson, Christopher Hine, Denham Springs; a granddaughter, Karen Abedinzadeh; and a great-grandson, Shaun Abedinzadeh, both of Baton Rouge; and a number of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Stella Fay Hinnant.

REDEEMING THE TIME

by Janet Metts

EPHESIANS 5:16, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Paul is believed to be the writer of Ephesians. He had been in Ephesus for quite a while and while he was in a prison in Rome he wrote Ephesians.

I believe Paul was telling the people to be careful how they use their time. Time is important and so is the way we use it. Either we waste our time or make good use of it. It is very important for a Christian to use his time wisely. Hebrews 6:12 says, "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promise."

I've always liked writing papers on people, places, and various other subjects. However I never thought of writing an essay or a testimony of my love for the Lord. The past few years I've been participating in the sword drill and I have learned of many Scriptures in the Bible. One of the Scriptures I saw and learned was Ephesians 5:16. When I found out that was the Scripture for this year's essay, I was overjoyed. I was happy because time is so precious and each person should spend his time using it for God, because it is He who gives us that time.

I was also happy because I think I need a chance to express myself about the way we can use our time to the fullest. The teenagers of today will be the good strong Christians of tomorrow. Time is not really ours but it still gives itself to us. All of us, Christians or not, are capable of killing time, not going that extra step for God. We assume we have all the time in the world, but we don't. God gave us an amount of time which we should use for Him.

Redeeming means "to regain purchase, amend, to rescue, as from the bondage of sin." That's what my dictionary at home reads. Some people don't understand fully what the word means. Redeeming coupons for example. You buy an item for a price but if you have a 10¢ coupon for that item you can get 10¢ off the price of the product you just bought.

It's the same way with Christ. When He died on the Cross He redeemed us from our sins. Time belongs to Him so it is only fair that we use it for Him. So many people don't realize that Christ loves them and they can never truly experience the overwhelming joy we as Christians feel. That is why it is so important that we live for Christ and give our souls to Him.

I try to redeem my time that I spend but it is not easy—especially for a teenager. The kids, most of the time, laugh or look at me as if I am a weirdo for doing something right. I don't understand why they don't want to witness for Christ. I know it isn't easy but nothing worthwhile is. I love the Lord and I'm not afraid to admit it anymore because someone through the power of God helped me to redeem my time, just as I am trying to help others redeem their time.

It is a shame that time does not wait and that is why it is so important that you redeem your time while it is here. It is true that the days are evil and you can't help from knowing that because it's on the news, in the streets, and at school! In Matthew 13:24-30, Jesus is telling a parable. A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. In this parable a man has planted good seed but while he was not tending his garden his enemy came and planted bad seeds or weeds in the midst of his good seeds. So when the wheat sprung up so did the tares. The servants asked to take up the weeds but the man said to wait so they would not ruin the wheat. He said to let both grow up together and at harvesttime they could gather both of them. "Burn the tares but keep the wheat and store it in my barn," he said.

The person who sows the good seed is the son of man. The field is the world in which the seeds were planted. The good seed are the children of God. The tares are the wicked people. The enemy is the devil who is always planting tares. The harvest is the end of the world and the angels are the reapers. Jesus is saying in this parable, "Do not fall asleep and let the tares of the world into your heart, lest at the end of the world you will be sent to burn with the other tares."

Many people do fall asleep and forget to redeem their time. Soon they are lost and become another tare planted by the enemy. Also in Psalm 25:22 David is asking God to redeem

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, JULY 19

Scripture Reading—Psalm 34

READY TO HEAL

This hope-bringing message was displayed on a church bulletin board: "God will mend a broken heart if you will give Him the pieces!"

He is ready to respond to those with fragmented hearts and frustrated lives when they turn penitently to Him: "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit" (Psalm 34:18).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Saviour came to heal the brokenhearted.

MONDAY, JULY 20

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 1

SINCERE SEEKERS

Said H. G. Wells, "Until a man has found God, he begins at no beginning; he works to no end."

God does not elude the sincere, penitent seeker: "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

TUESDAY, JULY 21

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 1:1-20

A NEUTRAL GRAY LIFE

In commenting upon the verse, ". . . though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow . . ." (Isaiah 1:18), William Temple said "My sins are not scarlet; they are gray!"

Many who are not guilty of the baser sins—fornication, adultery, drunkenness—live a neutral gray life, a life devoid of radiance and exuberance.

How abhorrent to God are the *gray* sins, such as *spiritual pride:* "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are" (Luke 18:11); *negative goodness:* "Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment" (15:29); and *selfishness:* "I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods" (12:18).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Whether our sins are gray or scarlet, we can triumph over them, being "more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

Scripture Reading—John 3:1-21

KITTENS AND BREADBOX

During a friendly conversation with a stranger, a minister asked, "Are you a Christian?"

The man replied, "Yes."

"What are your reasons for believing that you are a Christian?" asked the minister.

"I was born in America. America is a Christian nation, isn't it?"

"Yes, America is called a Christian nation," the minister replied.

"And I was brought up in a Christian home and church," the man continued.

Thoughtfully the minister replied, "These things are good and have their place, but they can no more make you a Christian than a cat's having her kittens in a breadbox can make them biscuits!"

The minister explained that one becomes a Christian by turning penitently from sin to the Saviour and pleading, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6).

THURSDAY, JULY 23

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 12:4-31

NEVER TOO SMALL

You may be too great to be used by God, but never too small.

Said Samuel to disobedient Saul, "When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel?" (1 Samuel 15:17a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular (1 Corinthians 12:27).

FRIDAY, JULY 24

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 3

OLD-TIME POWER IS HERE!

Emerson opined that Adam and Eve could have had electricity in the Garden of Eden. The latent unused energy was there. While the centuries glided noiselessly by, God waited for someone to discover and harness electricity's mighty power.

God's children often plead, "O Lord, send the old-time power." But God has already sent the old-time power. Too

few are sufficiency emptied of self to be "filled with all the fulness of God" (Ephesians 3:19).

PRAYER THOUGHT

In union with Christ and through our faith in Him, we have the boldness to go into God's presence with all confidence.

SATURDAY, JULY 25

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 26:1-5

TWINKLE, TWINKLE

A noted astronomer, seated beside an Anglican bishop on an airplane, said to him, "I never had much interest in theology. My religion can be summed up, 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.' "

"Well," the bishop responded, "I've had little time for astronomy. My views on astronomy are summed up in 'Twinkle, twinkle, little star!' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible says, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him" (Proverbs 26:4).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

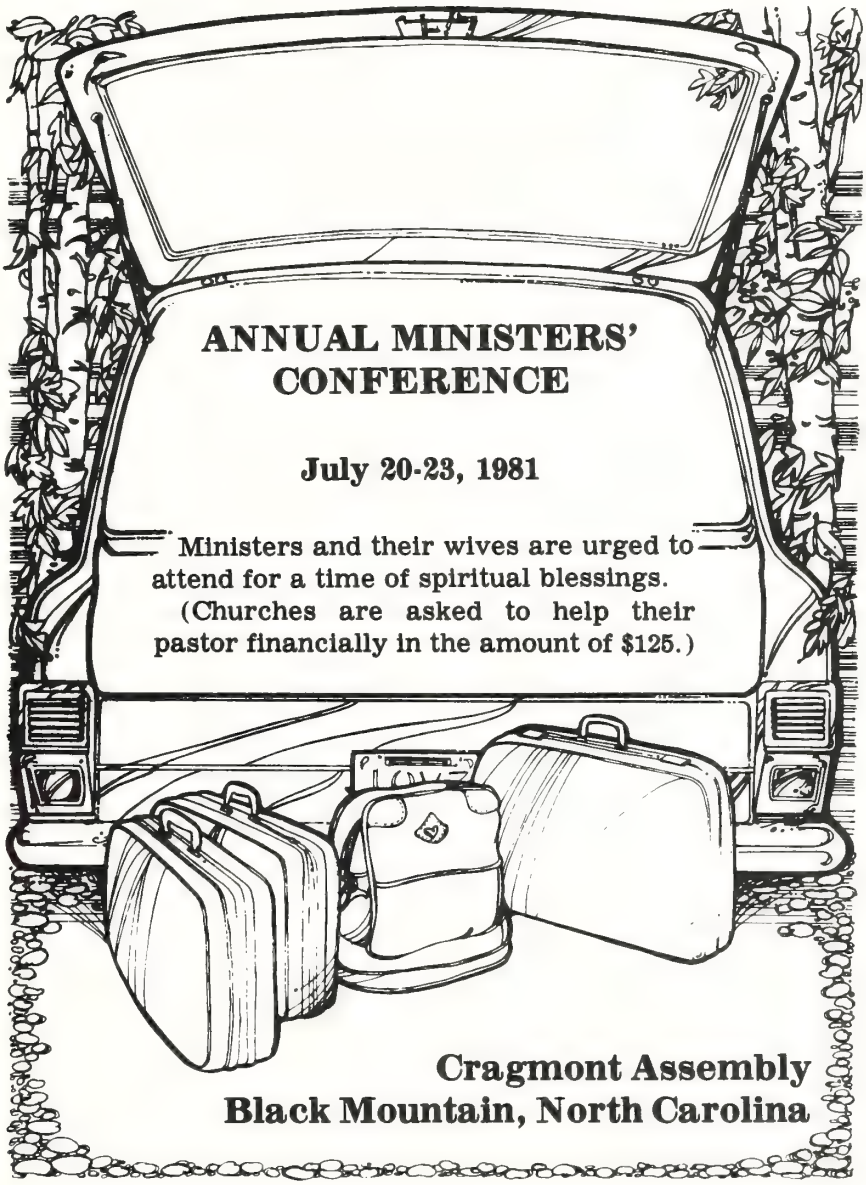
Carteret County Union Meeting is spearheading the Home Fund Drive for the purpose of purchasing Mrs. J. B. (Addie) Starnes a mobile home.

All money should be earmarked and sent to Mrs. Addie Starnes, 3010 Bridges Street, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Research psychologists are reporting that they found attendance at church more restoring and refreshing to the nerves, mind, and health of the average individual than golf, fishing, games, and many other forms of recreation. We can exercise and be out of doors all day and still carry around within us distraught nerves and frayed emotions because we have not found the peace and satisfaction which living with Christ alone can give. Families which go to church are happy families. The peace and inspiration of divine worship can miraculously put the mind and soul in order. For recreation to recreate—it must be spiritual. Golf, fishing, and games are good—but not good enough if worship is left out. If worship has had its place on the Lord's Day, then physical recreation is at its best and becomes part of re-creating our bodies, our minds, and our spirits.

—Selected



News from

Foreign Missions

OUR SCHOOL PROGRAM

According to the 1971 census, the total child population of India in the age group 0-6 is 114.7 million, or about 20 percent of the total population of the country. Assuming that 40 percent of the population is below the poverty line, the child population at subsistence level is about 46 million. The infant mortality rate is 133 per thousand live births (as compared to about 25 per thousand in the developed countries) and the death rate among preschool children is 21-35 per thousand (as against 1-5 per thousand in developed countries). About 40 percent of all deaths in the country are of children below the age of 5. About 75 percent of the child population can be classified as "not healthy" due to various major and minor illnesses. About ⅔ of the child population suffer from some form of malnutrition and it is estimated that the intake of calories falls short of requirements by 18-30 percent in nearly all age groups. As regards education, the enrollment rate for children aged 6-14 is 82 percent (98 for boys and 66 for girls) but the wastage rate is about 60 percent. Of these who drop out more than half do so in the first two years of school.

According to the census, there are 31 million working women (and this may be a serious underestimate because of the nature of census definitions). Of these, about 20 million may be categorized as belonging to the neediest groups, whose children most need day-care facilities.

We have now ten elementary schools comprising the total enrollment of 1,003 children ranging from lower nursery to fifth standard. These schools remain to be recognized by the State Government for lack of proper schoolrooms and other facilities like furniture etc. We are trying our best to equip our schools and get them duly recognized.

As we look forward, the following appear as the most urgent aims for our elementary schools.

1. To develop in the teachers a great concern for efficiency and integrity so that the children may have more of these qualities. Imparting of Christian education is the sole aim of the church and the teachers to be developed to that capacity.

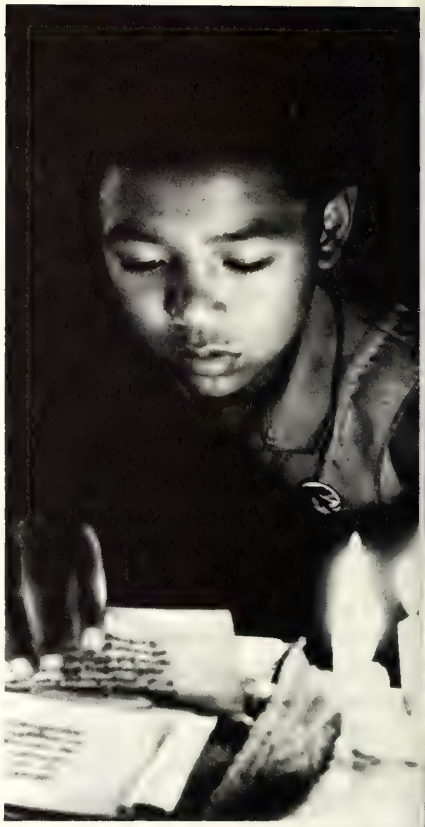
2. To provide the schools with brick buildings.

3. To provide the basic equipment to each school.

4. To appoint a committee of three deacons and ministers of the church to visit one school each month and to give basic Christian education to the children. This appointing was to be done at the time of ministerial council to be held on Friday, May 1, 1981.

We thank the Rev. Joseph H. Ingram, our Director-Treasurer, for his guidelines and for lending support to these schools. We earnestly hope that great purpose will be achieved through these schools in the time to come.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall, *Moderator*



THE MISSIONARY

I have always admired our mission board
And the wonderful works they do;
How they take the Word of God abroad,
To help those who never knew.

It takes a special kind of man
To give up the luxuries of home.
And spend his lifetime in the land;
To spread the Word of God
In fields unknown.

It has to be a very fulfilling life
To make men want to go.
He has to have a very special wife
To follow, and help him so.

We need men in the mission field
To bring the unsaved souls to God;
To show them that His love is real.
This special **Mission Man** of **God.**

by Bernice H. Williams
Christian Chapel
Free Will Baptist Church

NEWS & NOTES

Covered Dish Supper Served to Welcome Pastor



The Rev. and Mrs. Bob Harber

The Rev. and Mrs. Bob Harber and son, Don, were honored at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, North Carolina, on Sunday, June 28. A covered dish supper was served to welcome the new pastor to the church and community. An hour of fun and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone.

Oldest Member Honored at Saints Delight Church

The Ladies Auxiliary of Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Ayden, North Carolina, surprised the oldest member of the church with a birthday supper on June 14, 1981. Mrs. Verna Bowen was honored on her eightieth birthday with many beautiful gifts. She is still very active in the church. She plays the piano for Sunday school and church and also teaches the adult Sunday school class. Some have said that in the absence of the minister she could even preach. She has taught Sunday school at Saints Delight for more than twenty years.

Her service has been greatly appreciated. She has set a wonderful Christian example for everyone to follow.

News from Heritage Mission

Heritage Free Will Baptist Mission, Charlotte, North Carolina, honored its graduates on Sunday, May 31, during the morning worship service. Dr. Eugene Poston, former President of Gardner-Webb College and interim pastor of Heritage mission, brought the morning message of challenge to the graduates. The five students honored were Paula Carver, Linda Everett, Helen Griffin, Lou Griffin, and Tammy Mills. (Helen graduated from high school last year, but since there was no special service at that time, she was remembered with the 1981 graduates.) Each student was presented a pink rose and a gift from the mission.

Sunday, June 28, was Youth Sunday at Heritage mission. The young people took charge of the morning services. After they led in Sunday school, the morning worship service began. Soloists for the day were Misses Linda Everett and Helen Griffin; Miss Everett was also the speaker. During her message, she told her church family what they had meant to her during her "growing up" years; she pledged they would never be forgotten. Dr. Poston concluded the service, commenting on the excellent job and the great deal of work the young people had done. Taking part on the program were Linda Everett, Helen Griffin, Lou Griffin, Tammy Mills, Paula Carver, Sharon Everett, Amanda Mills, and Denise Mills. Thirteen visitors attended the service.

Back to School and College Day is planned for August 16. The members of Heritage mission encourage all who can to visit with them on this day (and whenever possible). A warm welcome awaits all who come.

Mount Tabor Church Gets New Pastor

Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, Creswell, North Carolina, called the Rev. Dewitt Cleve as its pastor recently. After church on Sunday night, everyone was invited to the fellowship building for a reception honoring the new pastor and his wife, Lila. Everyone attending enjoyed the fellowship.

Prescott Family at First Church, Wilson

The Prescott Family will be at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, on July 19, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Julius Gordon Massey announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing him at Route 4, Box 317, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580; phone, 747-2694.

COMING EVENTS

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 20-23—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

July 27—August 1—Young People's Bible Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

Have you renewed your subscription to **The Free Will Baptist?**

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 26

COMMITMENT IN WORSHIP

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 12: 5-12; 14:27-29

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 12:7

I. INTRODUCTION

Last week we considered the fact that God chose Israel to be His people. They were to live in a covenant relationship with the Lord, a covenant that promised blessings to them as they grew into a nation. Through their faithfulness to the covenant and to God, the blessings would be assured. Warnings were issued, however, that the consequences of rejecting God would be destruction.

Instructions providing Israel with an order of faith and life are contained in Deuteronomy 12—26. In a sense, these chapters provide a constitution for Israel. They are introduced as "statutes and judgments, which ye shall observe to do in the land" (Deuteronomy 12:1). They are commonly called "the law of the Lord." But to think of them in the restricted sense of a legal code is to miss the fact that they do indeed constitute *instruction* for a people whom God has chosen and for whom He desires good things. Therefore, they ought to be accepted on the basis of faith in the God who has given them. And the observance of them in daily life should be an expression of that faith, and, of course, an expression of love and gratitude.

Since the *response* of the people to God's offer is all-important, it is no wonder that Moses begins his instruction by speaking of commitment to the Lord in worship. Without this commitment there would likely be only a legalistic compliance to the statutes at best, and at worst the laws might even be considered onerous, sometimes to be circumvented if possible. On the other hand, a people committed to God would delight in following His instructions. Moses begins, therefore, with an exhortation to the proper worship of God.

Let us not suppose that these ancient words have no meaning for us today. The one place of worship, the animal sacrifices, and the ritual regulations of the Old Testament times are a thing of the past, but there are religious concepts involved in these teachings that have never been superseded. As we study, we should recognize some of the basic principles involved in worship.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. So far in our study of the Book of Deuteronomy, we have seen discourses by Moses upon the Law. These have dealt with the principles and purposes of the Law. They have been, to a great extent, abstract and philosophical. Now we come to a new section of the book. In this, Moses begins to instruct the people about what they are to do once they come into the Promised Land.

B. The first thing that Moses tells the Israelites that must be done when they enter the new land is to destroy all idols and the places where they were worshiped (Deuteronomy 12:2, 3). There is a principle here that we must not miss—if the Israelites were going to worship the true God in the Land of Canaan all other worship must be destroyed. Regardless of how narrow this may appear to some people, God will not tolerate in the least any form of idolatry. Either man worships God alone or he does not worship Him at all. He will not be placed alongside any idol in the life of any person. We give Him first place or He accepts no place at all in our lives.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Moses made it clear to the Children of Israel that upon entering and possessing the land promised to them, three great things had to be done: (1) They were to conquer the land under Joshua, driving out the invaders, and trust God for their victories. (2) They were to establish their homes in the land, each of the twelve tribes to receive a share of the conquered provinces. (3) They were to set up an established form of worship.

B. This third purpose for entering the land is what our lesson is concerned about today. Israel was not permitted to choose any form of worship which suited their notions; they were to worship according to the form prescribed by law—the Law of God. Upon entering the land they were to commit themselves completely to this divinely inspired form of worship. This is not as bad as it may seem; indeed, the Bible is clear in its instructions for our worship. If we follow these biblical instructions we will have less heresy, false teachings, liberalism, and more joy in covenant worship.

C. One more thing: God has ordained that He would meet His people in *corporate* worship, when the whole body of believers, such as a local congregation, comes together at a stated time to worship God.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

by Mrs. A. B. Bryan

As we look around, are we aware of who lives next to us? There are so many people who seem never to try to know anyone except the ones who are kin to them, or those with whom they grew up or went to school. Their little circle seems to go round and round while they are not concerned about things much further than their doorstep. We, as Christians, need to search our own hearts and see where we fall short by failing our neighbors. First, we fail them by not witnessing to them. We are so afraid to tell them about God and the experiences we have with Him. There are so many who live around us who never hear the word "God" unless it is used in a disrespectful way.

Love is often demonstrated by many of us as being shallow. We say, "I love you," but do we really mean it? We say we enjoy doing something for our neighbor, but do we just say so to try to build up or hold on to our good name? Is it not true that we hate to get involved with anyone except with those in our little circle? Such professed Christianity seems to be the going thing in many areas of the organized church. (This almost causes me to burst forth in tears at times.)

Often a kind word to some one outside of our circle would mean so much to them. If we did so we would feel better ourselves. "Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones" (Proverbs 16:24). We misunderstand our neighbors just because they are different from us in their areas of thought; we think they are wrong. Maybe they do lack wisdom according to our measurements, but who are we to judge and hold a standoff attitude when God has given us an opportunity to serve? "How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver" (Proverbs 16:16).

Maybe it is a little hard to take a step towards a stranger or a neighbor in need. Just remember, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with just one step." Step out and lend a helping hand.

We are all children of this universe, just as the trees, birds, beasts, stars, sun, the moon, and all the beautiful flowers that we see and enjoy each day. Who made all these things? Who else but God. When we understand and believe as we should, we will be able to look around and ask, Who is my neighbor, and be able to answer our own question in the beauty of Christian service.



Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

TRUE SUCCESS

by Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

What is success and how do we reach it? Those two questions were the concern of remarks made recently in a Mount Olive College Chapel service by Miss Caroline Castelloe, College Counselor.

Miss Castelloe pointed out that success can be different things to different people. To a baby, it may be the completion of a first step; to a young person, it may be acceptance by his peer group; to a freshman student, it may be sophomore status at college; and to a sophomore, it may be graduation at Mount Olive College.

"While these are worthy goals, to some success is wealth and to others it is fame," Miss Castelloe said. "But true success does not consist of these things for fame will vanish and riches may be squandered."

In its deepest sense, success is a "priceless wealth" which Miss Castelloe suggested can best be described poetically. She read a poem by Rudyard Kipling, entitled "If," which describes true success. Some lines of the poem are as follows:

If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise.

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run—
Yours is the earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a man, my son!

Achieving Success

Next Miss Castelloe turned to the subject of achieving success. "A desire for success is that miraculous power with which God has endowed each one," she said. "It is a vital, restless force which overcomes handicaps."

Miss Castelloe suggested that a recognition of this power along with its development and use is crucial for success in life. Paul, however, provides another secret.

"Like Paul, we must set a mark and press toward some goal," she said. "The marks and goals are not the same for everyone. God gives each one certain abilities and we should seek to know what God's will for us is."

She pointed out that setting a goal does not always assure us of achieving that goal on the first try. "We must be prepared to meet failure many times before we reach our goal."

She concluded her remarks on success by reading an anonymous poem entitled "The Man in the Glass."

THE MAN IN THE GLASS

When you get what you want in your struggle for self and the world makes you king for a day.
Just go to a mirror and look at yourself
And see what that man has to say.
For it isn't your parents—your children or wife
Who judgment upon you must pass
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the one staring back from the glass.

Some people may think you a straight-shooting chum
And call you a wonderful guy.
But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
If you can't look him straight in the eye.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest
For he's with you clear up to the end.
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test,
If the man in the glass is your friend.
You may fool the whole world down the pathway of life
And get pats on your back as you pass;
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears
If you've cheated the man in the glass.

As a school teacher, I was once asked to teach another class than I usually taught in a different room. Entering a few minutes before the students arrived, I saw a meal worm laboriously crawling along the floor. Somehow, the poor thing had been injured. It had been cut almost in half and the back part was completely dead and dried up but still attached to the front part by just a thin thread.

As I studied the poor worm pulling its dead half across the floor, a little girl ran in and noticed it there. "Oh, Oscar, when are you going to lose that dead part so you can really live?" How like the Christian today who hangs on to his old sin, his old man, carrying along a rotting burden when he can be freed through the power of Christ.

—Selected

News from the

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

CHILDREN GO TO CRAGMONT



Most of our campus residents go to Cragmont each year. This year they will be attending in three groups to various conferences. Many of our children make first-time decisions for Christ at Cragmont. Including spending money, the average cost per camper is about $75. Each year churches, auxiliaries, youth groups, and individuals help make camp possible for our children. We encourage our people to help us fulfill this need again this year.

A TRIBUTE TO THE REV. JACK LASSITER

As the Rev. Jack Lassiter leaves Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, we, the members of the church, feel an emptiness that cannot be filled by anyone else. We have come to love him as our friend and pastor. He has helped Rosebud in many and varied ways. The church is now a full-time church which has grown spiritually under his special leadership. Our former pastor has been blessed with the talent of singing as well as the gift of preaching. These qualities have swelled the hearts of the Rosebud congregation upon numerous occasions.

As you leave, Mr. Lassiter, we want you to know our prayers are with you always. It is our hope that your new church will give you the love and support you so richly deserve. Our loss is certainly their gain.

Members of Rosebud church

NOTE OF THANKS

The family of J. B. Starnes acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expressions of sympathy. Thanks to each of you who sent flowers, gifts, cards, and lifted prayers on our behalf. We truly thank you. You will always have a very special place in our hearts. May God bless you.

Mrs. J. B. Starnes and family

July is Christian Education Month.

News from the

Retirement Homes

"MINISTER, CAN YOU RETIRE?"

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

I've heard people say, "I can't afford to retire." One may not think he is able to retire, but he may not have that option. For instance, one's health may dictate his retirement. Most of us had rather not think about retirement. Some say they had rather "continue as long as the Lord gives them strength," but this may not be wise. Many a good pastor has undone the good he had done by trying to hang on too long.

One should not give up, however. Once retired, there is a multitude of things one can do. There are always churches needing supply pastors and Sunday school classes need good teachers. Cottage prayer groups and rest home visitation programs are very rewarding. I, myself, long for the day I can share my wood-working hobby helping some lad build a sailboat.

"All this sounds great, but I still can't afford to retire." Income can be the source of greatest anxiety for the retiree. Plan now! Save every penny you can! Go over your insurance program with a trained, objective planner. Again, consider how you can earn extra income with your talents and experience. Don't forget to apply for your Social Security several months in advance. Do not overlook the Medicare provisions in the law for retirees.

Where will you live? Many ministers own their own home. If you do, be careful, especially if it's near the church you retired from, not to be a thorn in someone's flesh. For those who may not own a house, a condominium may be the answer. For others our own Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes would be an excellent choice.

Can you afford to retire? Chances are that unless you begin to plan now, retirement may well be a nightmare. God promises to keep us through old age, but He may be giving you the means to have a comfortable retirement now. Be careful not to squander away your God-given future.

Twenty DON'Ts For Young Pastors

by Daniel F. Roth

1. Don't live beyond your income.
2. Don't be a stingy person.
3. Don't preach your doubts.
4. Don't preach so much against things as for principles.
5. Don't be tempted on any occasion not to preach your best.
6. Don't be looking for a larger field or another call.
7. Don't be a pessimist.
8. Don't deal in off-color stories and jokes.
9. Don't overlook the Bible when looking for preaching texts.
10. Don't be jealous of your fellow ministers.
11. Don't scold or deal in personalities.
12. Don't lose your temper in public.
13. Don't be artificial or sensational.
14. Don't belittle little things.
15. Don't be lazy.
16. Don't neglect the sick and sorrowing.
17. Don't betray a confidence.
18. Don't allow anyone to dictate your message.
19. Don't fail to keep your appointments.
20. Don't fail to pray.

The above counsel was found written in the flyleaf of a book after Mr. Roth's death. This advice is excellent for ministers of all ages and is just as pertinent today as when it was written decades ago.

Budget Cuts and Mailing

A Reagan administration budget proposal which doubles postage costs for non-profit mailers—including denominational publications—is now causing a great deal of concern.

When the Postal Service was formed in 1970, Congress decided that non-profit mailers (like the Free Will Baptist Press, and some churches) would gradually pay their own way, with rates rising each year until 1987. In that way, the terrific increases were softened by means of graduated steps over a 16-year period. The proposal is that the subsidy be eliminated, forcing non-profit religious, educational, scientific, philanthropic, agricultural, labor, veteran and fraternal organizations to pay full cost now.

Both the House and Senate have already approved the President's overall budget spending limits for fiscal year 1982, but individual committees are now in the process of recommending ways in which the specific cuts will be made.

Edgar R. Trexler is representing several church groups in the hearings. He has told the committee on Post Office and Civil Services that elimination of the phasing process "may well be a disaster." He stated that the elimination would more than double postage costs for non-profit organizations.

Trexler feels that Congress is on the verge of breaking faith with religious presses by forcing religious publishers to assume an exorbitantly heavy postage increase. He predicts that 10 percent of all religious publications will die if postage rates more than double. He also states that more than half will be forced to mail fewer copies.

Proper addressing is necessary to assure proper delivery of your mail. That's why we want to bring the new lockbox forwarding regulations to your attention.

Effective October 1, 1980, all post office boxholders became subject to the one-year forwarding provisions applicable to all other postal customers. What this means to you is that, if you filed a forwarding order to your post office box on or before October 1, 1980, the forwarding order you filed will expire on September 30, 1981. If you initiated a forwarding order to your post office box after October 1, 1980, your forwarding order will expire one year after the date of filing.

The new forwarding regulations will eliminate a significant amount of mail rehandling and help us hold down costs for all boxholders. We ask your cooperation in helping us hold down postal costs and assuring proper delivery of your mail by making certain all your correspondents know the correct way to address your mail.

Therefore, we strongly urge you to notify your correspondents about your post office box address. If you want to show your physical location, too, use the address form on Page 15.

Complete Name
Street Number and Name (or) Route Number and Box Number
P.O. Box Number
City State Zip Code

Please check your paper this week and see if your complete address is on it; if not, complete the above form and send it to us.

ACTOR YUL BRYNNER REQUESTS BIBLE

Famed actor Yul Brynner became the proud possessor of a large size King James Bible recently courtesy of the American Bible Society in New York.

Mr. Brynner phoned the Society and requested the large pulpit Bible because he felt he was able to get the true meaning over to the audience when he read from the Bible instead of using a 'dummy' book each night when he recited verses in the play "The King and I."

When the Bible was given to Mr. Brynner, the conductor of the orchestra who was present for the occasion requested a Bible also.

He received a leather-bound edition and wrote the American Bible Society:

"There are so many times in this hectic business when I do so hunger for the Word. I had a copy of the Book but it disappeared. Now I feel secure again knowing that I have the Book with me to turn to and draw much needed comfort and strength from. It is a gift far too precious to value in words and from the bottom of my heart I do thank you."

NOTICE

There will be no issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST printed July 29, because of our decision not to print more than 48 issues per year.

Those having announcements and news notes intended for the July 29 issue should submit these for the July 22 issue.

REDEEMING THE TIME

(Continued from Page 5)

Israel out of his troubles. We can ask God to redeem our troubles and our time if we really want Him to. Our lives should be an example to others. We shouldn't be telling dirty jokes, reading unclean books, going to places that are unfit. It will be a bad influence on others as well as a way to take us farther away from Christ. We should spend our time telling others of God's goodness. God expects us to do what is right and to love Him and not things of the world.

All people make mistakes, even Christians. That is why we must redeem our time every day. We must pray to God to help those who don't know Him that they will redeem their time and accept Christ as their redeeming Saviour.

I feel my family is full of love but it wasn't always like that. We used to go to church hardly ever but now we go regularly. We are active in the church, and I know we are a Christian family. I never thought we could be that way until we asked God to help us redeem our time. I know I am a better person now. I feel at ease and at peace. If you redeem your time and ask God for forgiveness of your sins you can feel this way too.

Jesus is called "the Redeemer" through His sacrificial death although it is not mentioned in the New Testament. We should be filled with the Holy Spirit and day by day be willing to serve Him. When I grow up I want to be a doctor so in a way I'll be saving lives with the help of God. Christ, however, saves people's souls. He helps redeem their time.

My life has really just begun, but for many people their lives are ending and a lot of them still do not know Christ and they haven't redeemed their time. No one knows when Christ will come or when they will die so it is best to be ready at all times. It may not be your last chance but it could be for someone.



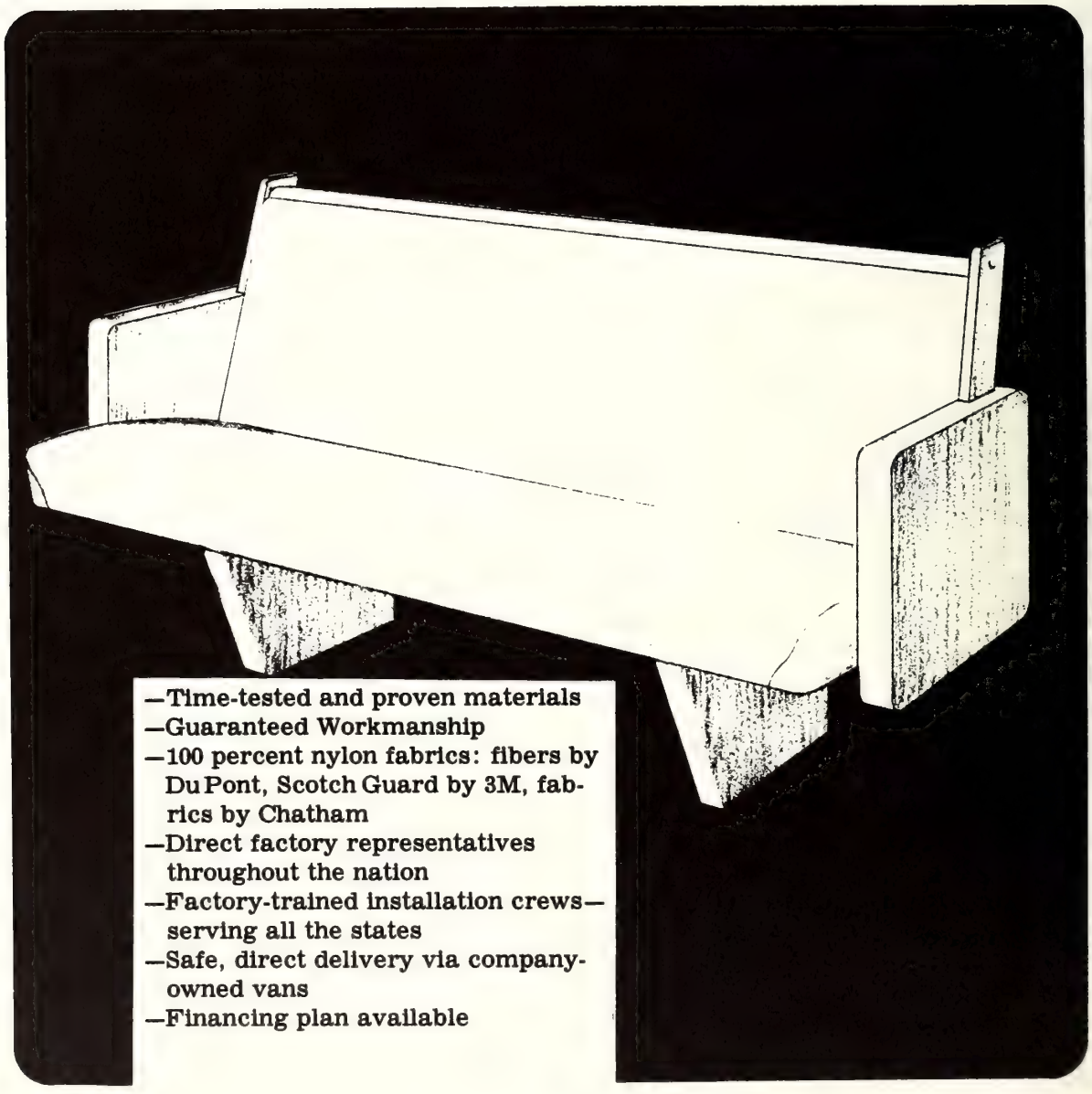
The essay was written by Janet Metts (age 14). She was declared second place winner in the State YFA Essay Contest. Janet is a member of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Pink Hill, North Carolina, where she serves as secretary of her local YFA. Mrs. Frances Casteen is her YFA leader.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation

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CHURCH FURNITURE

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



MARSH SWAMP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 1, Sims, North Carolina
Ray Wells, Pastor

Have You Heard?

Everything in our garden is lovely. The fruit of any legitimate tree is ours to enjoy: There are the tree of life; the trees of joy, peace, and understanding; the orchard of fine friends (usually called Christian fellowship); the precious trees of faith, hope, and charity—in fact, there are so many in our garden we cannot begin to name them all. Of these we can freely eat.

But as in the Garden of Eden, a forbidden tree can be found in the midst of our paradise; the forbidden tree of sin serves to remind us of one of God's greatest gifts—free will.

Often, the serpent comes to us; he tempts us; and sometimes we yield. One particular fruit we seem to delight in is called gossip; and it may be one of the deadliest, for seldom do we partake without sharing. (Gossip is "sharing private information with those who are not part of the problem or part of the solution"; someone has defined it as "anything that goes in one ear and over the back fence.")

Picture the scene: We have just overheard part of a conversation or walked up on a scene. Someone we know (and often, someone we do not know) seems to be involved in a compromising situation. Our hearts race within us; we can hardly contain ourselves. Who should we tell about what we have just heard or seen first? we ask ourselves. We run to the nearest telephone, impatiently dial that friend's number, and hastily relate information "hot" enough to sizzle the telephone lines. (It's a good thing they are insulated!) Of course we know females are the only ones who "enjoy" gossip—that's why men never group together before, during, and after church, or why they are never found in the neighborhood store (for hour upon hour).

Quite often we preface our news with, "I don't know much, but . . .", "Someone said . . .", and "So-and-So told Whatchamacallit who told Thingamajig . . . ." "The gossip's stock is largely hearsay—and what they don't hear, they say anyway." But many a person has discovered "They say" is a tough liar, for "gossip seems to travel fastest over grapevines that are slightly sour!"

We all seem to play games with ourselves, with others, and even with God. We hate to admit (or maybe we just haven't come to the realization) that there's still a lot of the old Adam in us. When we speak ill of others, we brag about ourselves—in a roundabout way. But we need to realize that our tongues can be like two-edged swords or consuming fires. Many an innocent individual has become victim to another's judgmental, slanderous whim; as a result, that person's reputation has suffered and been irreparably tarnished. (Is it not a shame that the only exercise some Christians get is jumping to conclusions?) "Nothing pays smaller dividends in spiritual results than making a specialty of talking of the shortcomings of others."

Brothers and sisters, let us remember, ". . . he that refraineth his lips is wise" (Proverbs 10:19).

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July 22, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

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Church of the Month

MARSH SWAMP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

WILSON COUNTY

submitted by Marsh Swamp Woman's Auxiliary

MARSH Swamp Free Will Baptist Church had its beginning during the late 1850s or early 1860s as Perkins Chapel. Moses Perkins owned the land between the swamp and the creek, where Marsh Swamp runs into Contentnea Creek in Wilson County.

The people of the community, being religious minded, were in need of a place to worship. Moses Perkins sawed logs and gave the lumber for Perkins Chapel which was built on a knoll near the banks of the swamp. The Rev. Hall was their pastor.

In this growing community, Perkins Chapel soon became too small to accommodate the people who worshiped there. Some of the people wanted to get away from the swamp, too, because of flooding.

In August 1872, Gary and Gillie Flowers Williamson gave one-fourth of an acre of land approximately one-half mile from Perkins Chapel for a new church to be built. This location is the site of the church today.

By 1885, the congregation needed more space so a big, straight building was erected which is still part of the present church sanctuary. A few years later an octagon-shaped choir loft was added. In 1920, a wing was added to each side of the church. The Rev. S. H. Styron was pastor and also the first pastor to be on a stated salary.

In 1899, James W. and Sidney Williamson Barnes deeded two and one-half acres of land for future expansion and a church cemetery. Marsh Swamp had a Sunday school prior to this time, but we do not know when it was organized. For many years Sunday school has been at ten o'clock each Sunday morning.

Services were held on the first Saturday and Sunday mornings of each month. In February 1943, the church voted to have services on the first Sunday night. In June of that year, a third Sunday service was added.

The church began its most extensive building program in 1945 under the leadership of the pastor and builder, the Rev. M. L. Johnson. The Board of Trustees worked with the pastor as a building committee.

The old building was completely remodeled, enlarged and brick-veneered. Six Sunday school rooms, a baptistry, two rest rooms, a kitchen, a basement for the central heating plant, stained-glass memorial windows and memorial pews were added at this time.

In 1949, a plot of land across the road in front of the church was given by Alton Barnes for the parsonage. This was completed in the year 1950.

During the building of the church and parsonage, there were many hours of labor and materials donated by the members and people of the community.

Marsh Swamp went to full-time service in October 1952, and became the first Free Will Baptist church in rural Wilson County to have a full-time minister. In March 1969, the church voted to discontinue Saturday morning services and to hold its business meetings on the Wednesday night prior to the first Sunday in each quarter.

In the early years, with no musical instruments, the choir director used his pitch pipe to get started on the right key. In 1880, the pitch pipe was replaced by a reed organ. In 1953, the members of Marsh Swamp purchased an electric organ and a new piano.

Immediately after Marsh Swamp became an organized church, it began to participate in all denominational programs. Marsh Swamp has regularly supported missions, education, the Children's Home, Cragmont, and all phases of the denominational work.

For many years the women of Marsh Swamp church have been active in the

(Turn the Page)

women's work of the denomination. Since 1944, the woman's auxiliary has sponsored a daily vacation Bible school.

The young people have had an active youth organization since 1942. Our young people now have three groups—YFA, AFC, and Cherubs. Also, our youth choirs participate regularly in our third Sunday morning worship services.

For a few years the men and women of the church were busy planting vegetables or making household articles to carry to the Harvest Day Sale, a project to help finance the church and building program. The first sale was in October 1949, with Governor Kerr W. Scott as speaker. The annual Harvest Day Sale was replaced in 1962 with Loyalty Sunday, which is observed each year on Homecoming Day, the fourth Sunday in October.

Since 1963, a fellowship hall has been built and the church has bought a new piano and organ, a church bus, central air conditioning, and the rest rooms have been remodeled. The sanctuary has been recarpeted and a section of the fellowship hall has been converted into a study for the pastor. The parsonage has been improved by adding aluminum siding and a double garage.

The following pastors have served the church since 1872: Joseph Sauls, Daniel Davis, William Valentine, P. T. Lucas, E. T. Phillips, J. H. Worley, L. Troy Phillips, D. A. Winborne, C. O. Armstrong, Robert F. Pittman, Cyrus Johnson, Ernest Poston, S. H. Styron, J. W. Alford, W. M. Ferrell, M. E. Tyson, N. Bruce Barrow, L. R. Ennis, Clarence Bowen, M. L. Johnson, Daniel L. Rivers, Melvin K. Everington, R. H. Jackson, Adrian Grubbs, and A. B. Chandler.

(Continued on Page 15)

Attention Layman's Leagues

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Layman's League Board is attempting to determine the number of Layman's Leagues (or Men's Fellowships or Brotherhoods) which are currently active throughout the state. The purposes of the Layman's League are: (1) to further the cause of Christ throughout the world by the unity and cooperation of the men of the church, (2) to increase our knowledge of the church and her institutions and enterprises, (3) to generate a spirit of Christian fellowship, and (4) to work for the general welfare of the church.

When men stand up for Christ, things begin to happen. It is with this belief that the State Layman's League Board has begun its mission to not only determine the current status of the Layman's League, but also to foster the establishment of a Layman's League program in churches where the men are not yet organized.

The names of the men on the State Layman's League Board and their addresses are as follows:

CENTRAL CONFERENCE: J. M. Langley, 602 Sorey Avenue, Tarboro, North Carolina 27886, phone 823-2356; Rex Wainwright, Route 1, Box 130-A, Winterville, North Carolina 28590, phone 756-5032; Delano Wilson, Route 1, Box 414, Winterville, North Carolina 28590, phone 746-6629; and Henry P. Beaman, Route 1, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28590, phone 753-4263.

EASTERN CONFERENCE: Tommy Benson, Route 1, Box 193-AA, Kenansville, North Carolina 28349, phone 296-1337; and J. T. Wilson, Route 2, Box 360, Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586, phone 244-0699.

WESTERN CONFERENCE: Danny Kirby, P.O. Box 851, Fremont, North Carolina 27830, phone 242-4749; and Harry Hinson, Route 2, Box 252, Fremont, North Carolina 27830, phone 242-6245.

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE: L. Graham Creech, Box 73, Newton Grove, North Carolina 28366, phone 594-0664.

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE: Charlie Keech Jr., Route 1, Box 130, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865, phone 943-3260; Garland Jackson, P.O. Box 51, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865, phone 927-4634; and Dallas G. Foreman, Route 4, Box 736, Washington, North Carolina 27889, phone 927-4444.

The State Layman's League Board requests that **all churches** complete the form below and return it to one of the men on the board. Your help in this matter and your prayers of support will be greatly appreciated.

Name of Church _____

Address of Church _____

Conference of Church _____

Pastor of Church _____

Do you presently have an organized men's group at your church?

_____

If so, what type of organization? (Layman's League, Men's Fellowship, Brotherhood, other) _____

If not, would you be interested in receiving help in establishing a men's organization? _____

Comments: _____

STANDING IN THE VALLEY

by Frank R. Harrison

"THE hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, **lo, they were very dry"** (Ezekiel 37:1, 2). Thus begins the vision of the Prophet Ezekiel as he gazed upon the people of Israel, carried into captivity, the nation fallen, the temple in ruins, and the priests scattered. The power and glory of nation and temple lay in ashes.

Can we not hear the prophet as he looks upon the church today? Is not there a drought in Zion? Are the powers of Satan less evil and deceiving today than yesterday? Where is the burden for lost souls? Where is the burden for preachers and ministers to fill our pulpits—men of God who have been in the "secret" place with God? Men who have heard a voice, seen a vision, tasted a power, measured an enemy, and by the power of God, declared a victory?

Is it not ironic that we as Original Free Will Baptists have the finest churches in our entire history, and yet have experienced so little of the holy fire of God in our midst? Our church buildings are second to none in most instances. We have padded pews, air conditioning, the latest organs, the best carpet, and pretty steeples, but where are the converts? Where is the convicting power of the Holy Spirit that brings men and women to their knees in repentance to produce the fruits of Christian living?

We have bigger budgets, more Sunday school rooms, and even buses; but where is the vision of a holy omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient God who calls men and women to a different life in Jesus Christ? Indeed, we have grown in our physical plants, but have we grown in our spiritual maturity and knowledge of God?

As a denomination we need pastors and shepherds who have been "to the mountain" and who continue to hear the voice of the Divine Drummer. Robert McCheyne said on one occasion that a holy minister is an awful weapon in the hands of God. How we need men "drunk" with the Holy Ghost!

Ezekiel saw a valley of dead and dry bones. The life and spirit had departed. He stood before the valley in awe and mystery. He called no committee, no gathering in the back room for a three-minute prayer, and did not ask for any theological road map of the latest theological movement. He listened until he heard the voice of God come again to him and ask: "Son of man, can these bones live?"

Oh, how we need men and women in the pew and pulpit who will wait before the Lord to hear this voice before they open their mouths to speak! The great need of the church is not bigger and better temples, but an experience that will awaken in us a burden for the lost, an experience that will melt away the deadness of complacency, and that will again bring the fire of God's Spirit blowing upon us.

Beloved, we need those servants of God who have experienced the conviction of the Spirit and who can address this generation ". . . that is mesmerized by materialism and tantalized by TV . . . a generation that is jeopardized by evils no other age has known, and victimized by cruel, malicious propaganda that clouds reality and confuses thinking. The last but not least ingredient of this witch's brew is the religious jackanapes, attracting the crowd to his revival jamboree with the lure of miracles as a cover-up for his itch for gold."

(Continued on Page 15)





SUNDAY, JULY 26

Scripture Reading—2 Peter 3

DEFENSELESS AGAINST OURSELVES

Almost daily we hear and read ominous warnings about the lessening chances of mankind's survival on earth.

"Man has lost the capacity to foresee and to forestall. He will end by destroying the earth," said Albert Schweitzer.

"The human race's prospects of survival were considerably better when we were defenseless against tigers, than they are today when we have become defenseless against ourselves," declared Arnold Toynbee.

Our approach to nature is to beat it into submission. We would stand a better chance of survival if we accommodated ourselves to this planet, and viewed it appreciatively instead of dictatorially and skeptically," wrote E. B. White.

The Book of Revelation also speaks warningly: "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star . . . upon a third part of the rivers and upon the fountain of waters; and the name of the star is Wormwood; and the third part of the waters became wormwood, and men died of the water because it had been poisoned" (Revelation 8:10, 11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Though "the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain" (Romans 8:22b), *God's children should always "look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness"* (2 Peter 3:13).

MONDAY, JULY 27

Scripture Reading—Psalm 42

"OVER THE RAINBOW"

In the famed motion picture, "The Wizard of Oz," young Judy Garland sang and popularized a song which deeply touched the hearts of millions who greatly admired her: "Over the Rainbow."

The song expresses a longing to escape to some faraway place where problems "melt away like lemon drops." It tells of a distant shangri-la where blue birds fly over the rainbow, and asks, "Why, oh why, can't I?"

Did Judy ever find what the heart yearns for—rest and spiritual satisfaction? Seemingly not. *She later took her own life!*

The soul has an innate spiritual yearning for God: "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God" (Psalm 42:1, 2).

Many endeavor to satisfy this inward thirst by chasing elusive phantoms and tantalizing mirages over barren deserts of emptiness and futility, hoping to escape to utopian bliss and tranquility. They say, "O that I had the wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest" (Psalm 55:6).

Where may enduring spiritual rest and satisfaction be found? Only in the Saviour who says to all weary, bothered ones: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

PRAYER THOUGHT

O, that the world might hear Him speak,
The words of comfort that men seek;
To all the lowly, and unto the meek,
Jesus whispers peace.

TUESDAY, JULY 28

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 53

"HIS BLOOD AVAILED"

The power of God to deliver men from the enslavement of sin is clearly set forth in these personally experienced words of Charles Wesley:

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me!

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *Jesus Christ . . . washed us from our sins in his own blood* (Revelation 1:5).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

Scripture Reading—James 4

WE KNOW BETTER

A salesman did his best to persuade an elderly, weather-beaten farmer to buy a set of books on scientific farming, but without success.

"No, I don't want those books," the old man replied.

"But, sir," said the salesman, "if you had these books you could be twice the farmer you are!"

"Son," drawled the farmer, "I don't farm half as good as I know how now!"

Most of us know better than we do. It is better not to know than to know and not do: "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them" (2 Peter 2:21).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin (James 4:17).

THURSDAY, JULY 30

Scripture Reading—Mark 16:14-20

NO CALL TO STAY

A friend asked Dr. Donald Carr of Persia, "How did you receive the call to serve the Lord as a missionary in Persia?"

Dr. Carr replied, "I had no call to stay at home, but I had the command to 'Go . . . into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature' " (Mark 16:15).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Lord, lay some soul upon my heart, and love that soul through me, and may I nobly do my part to win that soul for Thee.

FRIDAY, JULY 31

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 11

HOPE FOR THE AGING

Said Dr. Steven Lunger of Duke Medical Center, "We have to get rid of the superstition that aging is something inevitable and beyond the power of modern scientific research. We pay a terrible price for this delusion, which has no logical basis anymore."

Whether we die in the morning of life or in the late afternoon of life, what matters most is how we have lived—gloriously or ingloriously, nobly or ignobly, selfishly or unselfishly, for Christ or against Christ.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Life is too short to remember slights and insults, to cherish grudges that rob of happiness, to waste time in doing things that are of no value, to give youth to the devil and old age to God.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 35

INCURABLE STUPIDITY

Said Pitirim Sorokin in *The Crisis of Our Age,* "The history of human progress is a history of incurable stupidity. In the course of human history, several thousand revolutions have been launched with a view to establishing paradise on earth. Practically none of them has ever achieved its purpose."

When Christ, "The Prince of Peace," ushers in His righteous reign and banishes war, sin, sickness and sorrow, the earthly paradise envisioned by the ancient prophets will be a reality: "The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing" (Isaiah 14:7). Then, "They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away . . ." (Isaiah 35:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The soulful plea of myriads of God's children in response to the sure promise is, "Surely I come quickly . . . . Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

JODI LINK MEETS YOUTH



Many North Carolina young people recently had the chance to meet and make friends with Jodi Link, the daughter of missionaries Vance and Mattie Lou Link. While visiting in the state, Jodi attended the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists held in Rockingham, North Carolina, Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week at Cragmont Assembly, the July meeting of the Central District Youth Fellowship at Eagles Nest Conference Center—just to name a few of the places she went.

The first graduate of Lighthouse Christian Academy, Jodi plans to enter Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, Florida, in the fall.

Jodi, her mother Mattie Lou, and brother Paul have been in North Carolina visiting with relatives. They flew back to Texas Tuesday, July 14.

Editor's Note—It is hoped that we will all be able to spend much more time with Jodi. A dedicated Christian, she is a joy to be around.

NOTICES

There will be no issue of *THE FREE WILL BAPTIST* printed July 29, because of our decision not to print more than 48 issues per year. The next edition will be the August 5 issue.

All conference clerks and secretaries of bodies in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists are reminded that minutes for the *1982 YEARBOOK* are due to the Press 30 days after meetings are held. All are asked to respond accordingly.

NEWS & NOTES

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE/YFA WEEK A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND REVIVAL



Words cannot adequately relate what took place at Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, June 29—July 4, at Cragmont Assembly, for it was truly a time of fellowship and spiritual revival. During the week many prayers were answered and life-changing commitments were made to the cause of Christ.

The week was filled with fun times and periods of recreation, but the major emphasis of the week was placed on music, Bible studies, devotionals, chapel services, vesper programs, and campfires.

Serving on staff for the Conference were Dicky Barnes, Danny Braswell, Nancy Cale, Robert Eastwood, Guyla Corbett Evans, Beth Gates, Jerry Goff, Debby Gray, Cynthia Hansley, Wayne Harris, Jay Hudson, Becky Jo Sumner, Mike and Lisa Temple, Patricia Tyson, and Scott and Janie Sowers, Co-Directors.

Supper and Youth Rally to Be Held

There will be a barbecue chicken supper at the Micro Community Building on July 25, 1981, from 4 until 7 p.m. Meals can be eaten there or taken out. Tickets are available and proceeds will go to Micro Free Will Baptist Church bus and building fund.

The supper will be followed by the Western District Youth Rally at Micro Free Will Baptist Church, featuring the Missionaires Quartet, at 8 p.m.

Micro church is located on Highway 301.

1981 Session of State Convention Approaching

The Sixty-ninth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will convene September 16 and 17 on the campus of Lenoir Community College in Kinston, North Carolina. The Convention will meet in the gymtorium.

Please consult later issues of *THE FREE WILL BAPTIST* for the time of registration and a listing of scheduled activities.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*

Appreciation Day for Pastor



Pastor receives plaque

On May 31, 1981, Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina, honored their pastor, the Rev. Lloyd F. Hargis when the woman's auxiliary sponsored "Pastor Appreciation Day."

Upon arrival at the church, the pastor, his son, and his wife were presented boutonnieres and a corsage respectively by Mrs. Dot Barbour.

Following the Sunday school hour, in the early part of the morning worship service, Mrs. Letha Burgess read a pastoral tribute, after which J. W. Nichols, Chairman of the Board of Deacons, presented Mr. Hargis with a plaque from the church which was engraved as follows: Presented to Reverend Lloyd F. Hargis, Pastor Appreciation Day, May 31, 1981.

At the close of the morning worship hour everyone was invited into the fellowship hall where a bountiful picnic lunch was served. Those in attendance included the Rev. Ronnie Parker and family of Sneads Ferry, and Mr. and Mrs. Frankie Gooding, and the Rev. Billy Toler and family of Fremont.

Mr. Hargis was born September 19, 1939, in Johnston County to Mr. and Mrs. Victor

Hargis. He was saved in June, 1954, at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church under the ministry of the Rev. C. M. Coats. In June, 1958, he married Miss Sandra Godwin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Godwin of Clayton, North Carolina. In April 1968, the Lord blessed them with a fine son by adoption, Michael. He is now 13 years old.

In September of 1967, Mr. Hargis rededicated his life and began a struggling battle with the Lord's call to the ministry. In the next five years, he held many positions in the church and finally preached his first sermon at Lyles Memorial church in Clayton, North Carolina, in 1972.

In July, 1973, Mr. Hargis began his first pastorate at Fremont Free Will Baptist Church in Fremont, North Carolina. He was ordained May 14, 1974; and remained as pastor at Fremont where many souls came to know the Lord, until July, 1975, when he began his pastorate at Trinity.

When Mr. Hargis began his pastorate at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, its membership was 74. Since that time the church has received 145 new members, many of which were first-time professions; others were by rededication or by letter.

During the ministry of Mr. Hargis, he has conducted 28 revivals, 29 funerals, and 21 weddings.

Mr. Hargis is moderator of the First Union Meeting of the Western Conference, and is very active in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

He, his wife, Sandra, and his son, Michael, reside on Route 2, Clayton, North Carolina.

The members of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church just praise the Lord for "Preacher Lloyd."

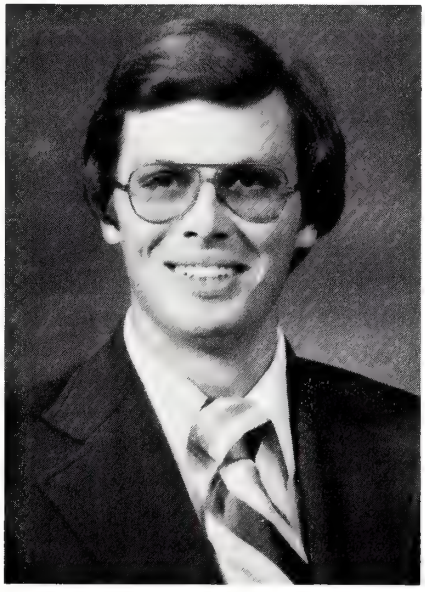
Pastor of the Week

The Rev. Connie Bryant Hines Jr.

Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Goldsboro, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. Connie Bryant Hines Jr., this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

Giving His Best

submitted by Casey's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary



The Rev. Connie Bryant Hines Jr.

"Give of your best to the Master,
Give of the strength of your youth."

These words so adequately befit the pastor of Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Goldsboro, North Carolina, the Rev. Connie Bryant Hines Jr.

Bryant was born on June 5, 1954, in Greenville, North Carolina. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Connie Bryant Hines Sr.

In 1972, Bryant graduated from D. H. Conley High School in Greenville. He served in the U. S. Air Force for 4½ years. In 1979, he graduated from Mount Olive College and in 1981, from Atlantic Christian College.

On August 11, 1979, Mr. Hines was married to Tamara Ann Williamson of Wilson, North Carolina. Tammy teaches a Sunday school class, is a member of the Woman's Auxiliary of Casey's Chapel church, and the Elroy Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. She works with him as a youth leader and sings in the church choir. She served as a counselor at the General Youth Conference at Cragmont this year.

Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Pantego, North Carolina, was Mr. Hines' first pastorate in 1978-79. He was ordained on June 7, 1979, in the Central Conference. He began his ministry at Casey's Chapel in September, 1979.

Bryant's ministry embraces many activities of the church, community, and denomination. He teaches a Sunday school class of senior high school and college students, sings in the choir, has recently begun a prayer breakfast for senior citizens, conducts weekly Bible study, and a monthly service at Greenridge Rest Home. He has begun publishing a monthly church newsletter and works

(Continued on Page 15)

CAMP VANDEMERE WOMAN'S WEEK

by Nina Grace Register



Camp Vandemere Woman's Week Group

The 1981 Woman's Week at Camp Vandemere had 38 full-time campers, 12 of whom registered for the first time. Among them and visitors who came for one day or one service, five conferences and numerous churches were represented. Attendance at night services averaged about 65. Total receipts for the week were $2,102. Included in this is Thursday's mission offering of $167, divided equally between Home and Foreign Missions.

Each speaker emphasized the theme, "Redeemed for a Purpose," citing John 15:14 and other verses on discipleship. Morning devotions were led by Rena Kirk, Pauline Mizzelle, Louise Bryan, Debra King, and Rudene Kennedy. Miss Kennedy also conducted daily Bible classes using selected passages from Job, Habakkuk, and 2 Chronicles.

Monday was "Woman of the Year" Day. Margaret Ard gave resumes for eleven women: Marie Newell (Moseley's Creek), Katie Newton (Mt. Zion), Bertha Harper (Deep Run), Nina Grace Register (First, Kinston), Lillian Heath (Core Creek), Ruby Jones (Daley's Chapel), Mary Gurganus and Lois Bryan (Holly Springs), Coleen Whaley (Sound View), Pearl Sutton (White Oak Grove), and Bertha Thompson (Folkstone). Each of them present received a red silk rose, and a reception was given in their honor.

The speaker Monday night was the Rev. Bob Yates, pastor of Mt. Zion. The church choir, led by Judy Thaanum, presented special music.

Tuesday was the day to have pictures made, but instead of saying "cheese," the ladies said "FISH!" as Willie Stilley displayed his prize flounder. (With other fish, it was destined for Thursday night's supper!)

Tuesday night the Arapahoe choir, directed by Jenny Skinner, sang. A highlight of the service was a memorial service and dedication of communion ware in memory of Mr. Henry Sutton of LaGrange, and in memory of Mr. Norman Foy of Verona. Members of both families were present for the dedication. The Rev. Ralph Sumner spoke of Mr. Sutton, and the Rev. Willey Stilley spoke of "King Vandemere," Norman Foy, who had been a regular camper for several years. Mr. Sumner and Mrs. Ard sang "The Lights of Home." The Rev. C. H. Overman, pastor of First Church, Kinston, brought the evening message, which was closed with a communion service in which he was assisted by Mr. Sumner and Mr. Stilley.

Early Wednesday morning most campers boarded the Arapahoe bus, driven by the Rev. Ray Williamson, for a ride on the Minnesott Ferry, a tour of the Ft. Macon Coast Guard Station, and lunch at Cap'n Bill's in Morehead. The Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Evans and the Rev. and Mrs. Eddie Edwards joined the group for lunch.



Staff members for Woman's Week

Those who remained in camp toured historical points in the Vandemere area, including the old churches.

The Wednesday night speaker was the Rev. Bass Mitchell, pastor at Core Creek. Men from the Oriental church sang several selections. Jack and Julia Bircher, with sons, John and Scott, played marimba, piano, zylophone, and drums, in a program of sacred music. After the service, they played several selections in a light vein, including some Broadway tunes and standard favorites.

Thursday was Missions Day. Debra King, former missionary to the Philippines, told of some differences between life there and here, and told what she gave compared to what she received. She taught some choruses in the Tagalog language.

The Rev. Dean Kennedy represented Home Missions with slides showing the development of two churches. He pointed out that the Catawba church has a Bible imbedded in its foundation directly under the pulpit, and that Cape Colony at Edenton started in an old jail building. He showed slides from the Camp for the Deaf, which this year will again be held at Eagles Nest.

Lunch included two foreign foods: a Filipino dish, "Pork Adobo" prepared by Debra King and Louise Bryan; and Mexican cornbread, prepared by Adaline Gray (former Eastern District Missions Chairman).

In the afternoon the ladies toured the gardens of Mrs. Anise Lupton; enjoyed a skit about a hungry child; met Charles and Jackie Barnard and son, Jeffrey; welcomed Joe and Peggy Ingram; and viewed a film on the World Vision program.

Among the 66 people for supper, special guests were the Camp Vandemere Board of Directors and several ministers and their wives. The menu included the fish caught by Mr. Stilley and crab cakes given by Reggie and Lottie Caroon.

At the evening service, the 1980 Miss Camp Vandemere, Gertrude Ballard, ended her reign by crowning Bett Ormond of Moseley's Creek church, as Miss Camp Vandemere 1981. The Camp Vandemere Campers sang "If You Do God's Will," "You Gotta Love," and led in the theme song, "Redeemed."

The Rev. Joe Ingram brought the evening message, and ended the service with a candlelighting ceremony signifying the way the light of God's love is spread throughout the world. After the song, "Let My Light Shine," those present gathered around the altar for a prayer of dedication led by Charles Barnard.

Friday morning each camper had an opportunity to tell at least one thing about the week which she found especially meaningful.

"Fun" things included feeding the gulls from the ferry . . . sitting up late . . . listening to Debra and Margaret compare the Philippines and India . . . Ma Ballard's reminiscences about their early ministry . . . crafts—covering coat hangers together . . . eating homemade "goodies" . . . canoe races—the first day, Bay River won; everyone got dunked! the second day the winning team was Jeffrey Allen and Happy Taylor . . . seeing friends we seldom see . . . no dishes to wash . . . .



Miss Camp Vandemere 1981, Bett Ormond

Staff members included Happy Taylor, director; Nina Grace Register, assistant; Margaret Ard and Debra King, music; Hazel Stilley, crafts; and Rudene Kennedy, Bible teacher.

Works, and not words,
are the proof of love.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 2

GOD DESIRES JUSTICE

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 16: 18-20; 24:10-15, 17-19

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 16:20

I. INTRODUCTION

When the people of Israel were delivered from Egyptian bondage by the Lord, they depended heavily upon Moses. Not only was he their leader; he also acted as judge between contending parties (Exodus 18:16). Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, wisely recognized that the task was too great for one person to handle alone. Upon his recommendation, Moses appointed deputies to act as judges for the people in ordinary matters. The more difficult cases would be referred to him (Exodus 18:26). Since leaving Egypt they have traveled together and have dwelt in one large camp. Soon, however, they will be scattered up and down the Land of Canaan, inhabiting towns and villages separated one from another. Under these new circumstances it will be necessary that provision be made to preserve law and order and to see that justice is done. To this end Moses instructs the people to appoint judges and officers in every city in which they will be settled. God is concerned about the leadership of the nation—not just about the religious leadership but the civil as well.

Justice is to be of primary concern to the leaders of the nation. As we have stated, justice is not an option in the sight of God, it is basic. It is stressed throughout the Scriptures. The prophets, especially, denounce injustice wherever it appears. Our lesson stresses God's requirement of judges that they render justice to all, impartially and fully.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. We think of no better way to begin this discussion of the sixteenth chapter of Deuteronomy than to give the following quotation from C. H. Mackintosh in his monumental *Notes on the Pentateuch, Genesis to Deuteronomy:* "We now approach one of the most profound and comprehensive sections of the Book of Deuteronomy, in which the inspired writer presents to our view what we may call the three great cardinal feasts of the Jewish year, namely, the Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles; or, redemption, the Holy Ghost, and the glory. We have here a more condensed view of those lovely institutions than that given in Leviticus 23, where we have, if we count the Sabbath, eight feasts; but if we view the Sabbath as distinct, and having its own special place as the type of God's eternal rest, then there are seven feasts, namely, the Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feasts of First-Fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and Tabernacles."

B. After a somewhat lengthy discussion of these feasts, the book goes into a discussion of justice which embraces several chapters.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. A nation of people is drawn together in a common cause during wartime. America was more closely united in the years following the Japanese attack upon Pearl Harbor than it had been before—or since. We had a common enemy and a united purpose to defeat that enemy. Israel experienced the same sense of unity during the wars of conquest under Joshua; they had a common enemy and a unity of purpose.

B. During peacetime, however, when people are less tense and more relaxed, they tend to revert to some old ways and practices. A certain amount of unity is lost, and it becomes easier to relapse into a spirit of "every man for himself." If such a spirit gets out of control, injustices often arise, greed becomes evident, and a general attitude of "get what you can in any way you can" takes over. It is during such times that laws must be enacted to protect all involved, and justice must be emphasized most strongly.

C. The justice we speak of in this lesson has less to do with what we call "law and order" than with the concept of being honest and fair one with another.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Pledge of Allegiance—What are the last words to the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag? For years we may have repeated "with liberty and justice for all" without really thinking about its meaning. This means that in our great country every person regardless of religion, or race, or wealth, or even intelligence is entitled to justice. Justice is not something that can be wrapped in a package and given as a gift. It is something that has to be administered from day to day as we live.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

"Family Ministry and Biblical Preaching"

The 1981 Ministers' Institute will be held on the Mount Olive College campus August 10, 11. Entitled "Family Ministry and Biblical Preaching," the institute will meet in the Henderson Building from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served at :30 a.m., and each minister's wife is cordially invited to attend.

Overnight accommodations may be arranged at the Southern Belle Motel, Mount Olive, NC; telephone (919) 658-9404. For additional information, please contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Office telephone, 658-2502; home telephone, 658-9363.

Monday, August 10, 1981

:30-10:00 A.M.—Coffee and Doughnuts—South Lobby, Henderson Building
:00-10:15 A.M.—Devotional—The Rev. Phillip Wood, Pastor, First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield
:15-11:15 A.M.—"Ministry to Senior Citizens"—Dr. Eugene Sumner, Chairman of the Department of Sociology and Social Work, Meredith College, Raleigh
:15-12:00 Noon—"Depression and the Senior Citizen"—Dr. Hervy Kornegay, Family Medical Center, Mount Olive
:00-12:45 P.M.—Worship Service—Rodgers Chapel—The Rev. Tommy Evans, Presiding; the Rev. Ed Gonzalez, Speaker; the Rev. David Hines, Soloist. Gonzalez is pastor, Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly.
:45- 1:30 P.M.—Lunch—Cafeteria, Downtown Campus
:30- 2:15 P.M.—"The Minister and the Issue of Divorce"—The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain, Mount Olive College
:15- 3:00 P.M.—"Premarital Guidance"—The Rev. DeWayne Eakes, Pastor, Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama

Tuesday, August 11, 1981

:30-10:00 A.M.—Coffee and Doughnuts—South Lobby, Henderson Building
:00-10:15 A.M.—Devotional—The Rev. Chris Singleton, Pastor, Beulaville Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville
:15-11:00 A.M.—"What Is Biblical Preaching?"—Dr. John Bergland, Professor of Homiletics, Duke Divinity School
:00-12:00 Noon—"A Theology for Biblical Preaching"—Dr. John Bergland
:00-12:45 P.M.—Worship Service—Rodgers Chapel—The Rev. Gary Bailey, Presiding; the Rev. C. L. Patrick, Speaker; the Rev. Bryant Hines, Soloist. Patrick is pastor, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville.
:45- 1:30 P.M.—Lunch—Cafeteria, Downtown Campus
:30- 3:00 P.M.—"Exegesis for Biblical Preaching and Resources for Biblical Preaching"—Dr. Michael Pelt, Chairman of the Humanities Division, Mount Olive College

DR. PELT TO SPEAK AT GUM SWAMP CHURCH

Dr. Michael Pelt will be the guest speaker for both morning and evening services at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, on Sunday, July 26. Dr. Pelt is chairman of the Religion Department at Mount Olive College.

CHAPLAIN TO SPEAK

The Rev. Frank Harrison will be the guest speaker at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, on Sunday, July 26. Mr. Harrison is the chaplain at Mount Olive College.

CRAGMONT SUPERBALL

by Rick Watson

That time of year is approaching when all you golfers and duffers should start planning for another Cragmont Superball tournament. Last year's participants had a super good time and one or two of them ate a super lot of barbecue. This year's event will again be held at Happy Valley Golf Club in Wilson and the $25 per person entry fee will again include greens fee, electric golf cart, pig pickin' and eligibility for the prizes and trophies that will be awarded.

The four-man team will be used as it was last year, but, the origination of the team will be a little different. First of all, you may invite any one person of your choice to be your partner and you will be assured of playing on the same team together. You and your partner will be paired with two other players to comprise a foursome. If you do not invite anyone, don't worry—we'll pair you up.

The tournament is planned for October 2 with shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. We would like to emphasize that ladies are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

You will be seeing and hearing more about Cragmont Superball in the weeks and months to come. For more information call or write: Rick Watson, Route 2, Box 607, Wilson, NC 27893; phone: 237-8472 or 243-6114.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO GET TEED OFF WITH US! ! ! !

July is Christian Education Month.

News from the

Retirement Homes

QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT
April, May, June, 1981
Total: $5,241.35

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Albemarle District Convention	$93.50
Saint Paul	25.00
Total	$118.50
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Bethel	$20.00
Casey's Chapel	158.00
Catalpa	50.00
Goldsboro, First	126.60
Hopewell	20.00
Johnston Union	221.10
Lee's Chapel	20.00
Palmer Memorial	20.00
Riverside	20.00
Robert's Grove	20.00
Shady Grove	20.00
Smithfield, First	20.00
Saint Paul	20.00
Tee's Chapel	20.00
Victory Mission	26.14
Wooten's Chapel	61.50
Total	$843.34
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Aspen Grove	$10.00
Ayden	25.00
Bethany	20.00
Black Jack	9.05
Daniels Chapel	20.00
Dawson's Grove	20.00
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	10.00
Elm Grove	32.00
Free Union	5.00
Friendship	760.00
Greenville, First	20.00
Grimsley	2.00
Gum Swamp	20.00
Harrell's Chapel	10.00
Howell Swamp	20.00
Hull Road	4.00
Hugo	20.00
King's Cross Roads	10.00
LaGrange	20.00
Little Creek	20.00
Marlboro	20.00
Ormondsville	20.00
Reedy Branch	37.25
Roanoke Rapids, First	6.22
Rose of Sharon	20.00
Saratoga	20.00
Tarboro, First	62.00
Union Number 2	27.56
Total	$1,290.08
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Angola	$60.00
Arapahoe	22.00
Bethel	20.00
Beulaville	25.00
Croatan	25.00
Davis	124.20
Dublin Grove	135.00
Gray Branch	20.00
Holly Springs	2.00
Kinston, First	105.00
Lanier's Chapel	50.00
Macedonia	100.00
May's Chapel	100.00
Northeast	22.50
Oriental	10.00
St. Mary's	85.00
Sandy Plain	20.00
Sound View	70.00
Wardens Grove	20.00
Welcome Home	50.00
Westside	10.00
Whaley's Chapel	20.00
White Oak Grove	54.00
Wintergreen	20.00
Total	$1,169.70
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION	
Pee Dee District Convention	$45.00
Total	$45.00
PIEDMONT CONFERENCE	
Advance	$11.55
Cathedral	30.00
Total	$41.55
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Barnes Hill	$2.00
District Convention	100.00
Elwood Lane	167.66
Free Union	230.00
Flood's Chapel	12.00
Holly Springs	20.00
Marsh Swamp	20.00
Mount Zion	20.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Pine Level	20.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Pleasant Grove	360.00
Pleasant Hill	150.00
Pleasant Plain	20.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Sherron Acres	75.00
Stancill's Chapel	20.00
Union Grove	20.00
Union Number 2	40.00
Wilson, First	170.00
Total	$1,621.66
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	$111.52
Total	$111.52

News from the

Children's Home

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the resignation of the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey as Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., and the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc., effective August 15, 1981, a Search Committee has been appointed consisting of Walter Sutton Jr., Chairman; Robert Bell; Carolyn Eakes; James B. Hardee; Walter Reynolds; and Charles Sullivan for the purpose of securing a new Executive Director. Applications may be submitted to Walter Sutton Jr. at Route 2, Box 100-A, Vanceboro, NC 28586, or to any other member of the Committee.

HOUSEPARENTS NEEDED

The Children's Home is in immediate need of a Christian couple over 21 years of age to work at the Children's Home as houseparents. This is a great opportunity for service in the Lord's work and anyone who may be interested is urged to respond right away by calling Bruce Steadman, Director of Child Care at the Children's Home, at (919) 235-2161, or by writing to him at P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557

COMING EVENTS

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 27—August 1—Young People's Bible Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Promotional Month

Church of the Month

(Continued from Page 4)

Our present pastor is the Rev. Ray Wells, who came to us in September 1979, from Selma. His ministry is an inspiration to the youth as well as the adults.

Ministers that have been ordained from Marsh Swamp are: A. Ruffin Flowers, L. H. Boykin Sr., Epp R. Barnes, William (Billy) Bradshaw Morris, and Phillip Boykin. Phillip is the grandson of L. H. Boykin Sr.

Through the years Marsh Swamp has grown from one-fourth of an acre to approximately five acres and from a very small membership to around 300.

Limited space has prevented the mention of members who have been active in the church's services and projects.

We do thank God for His richest blessings and pray that we may go forward in His service.

Standing in the Valley

(Continued from Page 5)

How often have we substituted organizing for agonizing, equipment for "enduement," budgeting for evangelizing! We are rich in things, yet, we are so poor in prayers and spirit! Indeed, we have need of nothing, and yet we lack almost everything the Apostolic Church had.

Beloved, it is not too late! The God of Ezekiel is the same God who gave birth to the Christian church. He is the same One who gave His Son to die for sins of the world, and it is His Son who says to disciples in every age and to the church in every generation: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

God has all we need to rekindle the fires of evangelism and witness—to give life to His church and give her power to fulfill His purpose. Indeed the slogan of the church must be, "We will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word."

May these words of E. M. Bounds, in *Power Through Prayer,* dwell in our minds and hearts: "What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organization or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use—men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer."

May God call us to join together in prayer that we may be awakened to behold "the fields white unto harvest, but the labourers are few."

"Then he said to me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost: we are clean cut off for our parts. Therefore prophesy and say unto them, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold . . . I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves . . . O my people . . . and shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live . . ." (Ezekiel 37:11-14).

Pastor of the Week

(Continued from Page 9)

with two local churches in Pre-Easter and Pre-Thanksgiving services. He served as counselor at the General Youth Conference at Cragmont in 1980 and 1981. He is the chaplain and an active member of the Elroy Volunteer Fire Department. Added to these activities, he is always available to visit the sick and those in the community who are in need.

Nine new members have been received into our church and one baby dedication service held during Bryant's ministry. A building program for the future has begun and the purchase of choir robes and chairs are projects of the church at this time.

We feel fortunate in having Mr. Hines as our pastor and are happy to honor him this week.

In Memoriam

On February 2, 1981, God in His wisdom saw it best to call Amanda Crawford Willoughby to her eternal home at the age of 74. She was the widow of William Archie Willoughby.

Amanda was taken ill last October. Her youngest son, Pete, and his wife, Barbara, took her into their home and gave her all the love and understanding and care anyone could have given. Amanda often expressed her deep feeling of being loved and wanted. She had a feeling of security, which made her afflictions seem lighter.

She was a member of Hickory Chapel Free will Baptist Church. She loved her church and filled many places, not only in the church, but denomination as well.

She was deeply devoted to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, and she frequently spoke of her love for the Home, and her compassion for poor unfortunate children.

She had great love for God's Word, and would talk about it with those who had much in common with her. She had great ideas and great ideals.

Death is the gateway to life. That gate opened, she entered in, to hear her Master say "Well done." Her suffering has ended, and has been replaced with unspeakable joy and peace. All storms of life, sorrow and disappointments are forever past and she has won the victory.

Bettie Tinkham

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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Whatever Happened to Sunday?

In August 1980, Congressman Mario Biaggi of New York introduced a bill in the United States House of Representatives (known as H. R. 7928) "to establish temporary provisions governing the day and times for the elections of senators, members of the House of Representatives, and electors of President and Vice President." The bill calls for a revision of present procedures with elections being held "the Sunday next after the first Monday in November in the calendar years 1982, '84, '86, '88. Polling places would be open from 12 noon until 9 p.m. When the bill was not acted on during the 1980 session, Mr. Biaggi reintroduced it during the first day of the 1981 session. (The bill is now known as H. R. 84). Even though the bill has not yet been passed, it points out the existing lack of concern for the church, religious education, and respect and appreciation for the Christian Sabbath.

Sunday is now observed by most Christians as the Lord's Day. It is the day set aside for people to celebrate joyfully our Lord's Resurrection from the grave; it is a day of worship, family, religious instruction, and spiritual renewal. **But,** it has also become a catch-all day. It is on Sunday—the Lord's Day—that we change our clocks, extend weekend holidays, have birthday and anniversary celebrations and weddings, take excursions, and go on short shopping trips. Needless to say these activities do not have to dishonor Sunday. But doesn't the line have to be drawn somewhere? How does one justify cutting the grass, plowing fields, working on cars, and so on? Business, sports, recreation, and work have nearly taken over the Lord's Day. To this I hear Voltaire's words resound, "If we want to destroy the Christian religion, we must destroy the Christian Sabbath."

In 1875, the leaders of Evanston, Illinois, decided that a local drugstore was desecrating the Lord's Day by serving ice cream sodas. The people of the city passed an ordinance which prohibited making sodas on the first day of the week. A young enterprising clerk "solved" the problem when he put together a concoction of ice cream and syrup without using carbonated water. The tasteful combination of ice cream and syrup became known as a sundae. If those men were horrified by sodas, I wonder how they would feel in today's society!

Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe, noted educator, writer and lecturer, said, "It seems to me that the crux of today's Sunday problem lies not in the unchurched, but in the hearts of believers. Any solution is going to have to start right there." You and I can't point fingers of accusations at our worldly neighbors for washing their cars, painting their houses, and frequenting malls on Sunday when we often are guilty of doing the same things—and in the eyes of the unchurched, our not going to church on Sunday justifies their every action. (Is it not apparent that a good deal of the blame rests with professing Christians for setting a poor example?)

It is evident that Christians have helped secularize Sunday, that the meaning of the gospel message and the significance of the Sabbath have become less precious or have

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Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 26 Number 29

August 5, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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What Free Will Baptists Believe and Why

by Dr. E. L. St. Claire

Historical

THE Free Will Baptists are not a "split off" from some other Baptist church as many believe.

This question is often asked the writer: "When did your church split off the Missionary Baptist church?" or "When did you all slab off the Hardshells?"

To this frequently asked question, I reply: "The Free Will Baptists are not a 'slab off.' "

Most any well-informed person on church history knows that we were first called "Free Wills" in 1780, in the town of New Durham, New Hampshire. Benjamin Randall was the first preacher to bear that name, because Benjamin Randall preached "freedom of the will," or "the free agency of man." The Calvinistic Baptists dubbed Benjamin Randall "a Free Willer," and the name has clung to the Free Will Baptists ever since.

The Calvinistic Baptists were quarreling among themselves over mission work, Sunday schools and masonry. This quarrel culminated in the year 1832, when the Calvinistic Baptist churches split—slabbed off—from each other. Those Calvinistics in the church who did not believe in missions and were opposed to masonry, were in the majority and they turned the minority out of the Calvinistic church. Some few years after this event, which occurred in 1832, these excluded members took the name of Missionary Baptists, and the other side took the name of Primitive Baptists.

Now, reader, you can readily see that the Free Will Baptist church is not a "split off" from the Missionary church, neither is it a "slab off" from the Hardshell Baptist church.

The Free Wills were named in 1780. The Calvinistic Baptist church split in 1832, so you can easily see, we, as a church, could not have been a part of something that did not exist until fifty-two years afterwards. In other words, the Free Will Baptists were fifty-two years old when the Calvinistic Baptist church finished their fight over missions and masonry.

There were no Calvinistic Baptists before the days of John Calvin, who introduced the "Fatalism of the East" into the religion of Jesus Christ. There has always, since the days of Christ, been a Baptist church which did not and has not taught the fatalism of John Calvin, and that Baptist church was called "Free Will" in the year 1780. In that year, Washington and the Revolutionary patriots were fighting for political freedom, and Benjamin Randall was fighting for spiritual freedom from the meshes of India, Oriental, Eastern Fatalism.

Doctrinal Fatalism

". . . Adam, by transgression, fell." God did not make him fall; God did not cause Adam to fall. If so, God is responsible for the act, and not Adam. The cause is, and must be, responsible for the effect. Adam fell; the cause of that fall is responsible for the act, or fall.

In order that the Creator might hold Adam, the man He created, responsible for his own actions, man must first be a responsible being and endowed with the "freedom of the will": the power to choose between two or more things. Second, two or more things must be placed before man in order that he, man, can exercise his "freedom of the will." Third, the opportunity must be given.

This opportunity was given to man, the creature, by God, the Creator. When He, God, gave to man, the creature, a law, with a penalty attached, and commanded man to obey it—it necessarily follows that man, the creature, must have the power to choose—exercise his right of choice between obedience and disobedience in order to be free. Otherwise he, man, is not free, not responsible, and therefore suffering unjustly for doing what he could not help doing. Now God is just, the law is just, and man's punishment just, because man was unjust. The law was for man's good, not God's good; hence the law was holy, ordained to keep man holy, as

(Turn the Page)

God, the loving Creator had created man.

Free Will Baptists have always believed that man is responsible to God, his Creator, for his acts, hence man has a "free will," having the power to choose between good and evil. Jesus taught this doctrine when He exclaimed, "Whosoever will, may come." Again our Lord taught the doctrine of "free will" when He commanded His apostles to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Because all were sinners, all have sinned. All needed redemption—salvation—not because all were born in sin, but because all, like Adam, had sinned. All were called on to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, to believe on the only begotten Son of God, as the only means of salvation. All the world, not a part of it, was called to repentance, all men—not some of them. Why? Because all have sinned, do sin, are sinning. Not some, but all. Why call if all cannot hear? Why die for all if all cannot be saved? Is not His blood sufficient? Is not the sacrifice of Christ ample?

Anything short of a full, free salvation from sin is anti-Christian, savors not a loving, dying Christ, but smells of the slums of religion. Calling "all men to repent—everywhere." Anything short of this is beneath a loving God, and only finds place in the shallow mind of men. Believe and repent! Who? All men everywhere! Why? Because all men everywhere reveal to us the loving nature—the unselfish nature of the Christ and God the Father. Faith in Christ, and repentance toward the Father, God. All come—great and small, rich and poor, all come—every man—everywhere. Come, the sacrifice is offered, the sword is removed before the gates of the spiritual Eden—the church. Come in, every kindred, every tribe,



every nation, come in! And yet there is room—room for all. Christ died for all. Jesus Christ tasted death for every man. Come on; only devils—demons, would keep you back—keep you away.

Thus Free Will Baptists have ever taught and ever believed salvation was free and all men could be saved, if they would be. Free Will Baptists also believe and teach that baptism follows on experience and grace, and that true, penitent believers are the only fit subjects for baptism. "Repent and be baptized," said Peter to the anxious, believing sinners on Pentecost, and as Baptists, we have ever so taught.

Baptism symbolizes the death and burial and Resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. Only those who can repent and believe the gospel are to be baptized—"buried with Christ in baptism."

It was the Catholic church that changed the rite of baptism to effusion or sprinkling, and the change was not sanctioned until 1351. Free Will Baptists have not adopted that change—and will not.

The Lord's Supper, as Free Will Baptists believe it, and teach it, was established by our Lord as a memorial supper of His death and sufferings on the Cross—to be perpetuated until He comes again. It is the Lord's Supper, therefore, not a Baptist supper—intended for the Lord's people only; and as it is impossible for the church to judge who are saved, the church has no right to say who shall take it. Indeed, the Lord commands the church not to judge—hence Free Will Baptists exclude none from the Lord's Supper who claim to be the Lord's people.

Free Will Baptists also believe and practice washing the saints' feet, in connection with and immediately after the Lord's Supper. They have always done it, and doubtless always will. Free Will Baptists were told that St. John was the only apostle that mentioned feet-washing in connection with the Supper, and this was sufficient evidence that it was not to be continued. This was a hard hit. It hurt. Some nearly fainted by the wayside, but the more thoughtful investigated and found that St. John wrote the last of the Gospels, his Gospel, in the year A.D. 66, after all the other apostles were dead—and St. John, seeing what Matthew,

Mark and Luke had omitted —left out of their Gospels —included it in his own Gospel—thus making it sure. St. John's Gospel has many things taught in it that cannot be found elsewhere in Gospels. But no sane Bible student would reject them because they are not taught elsewhere. If washing the saints' feet is to be rejected because St. John is the only apostle that mentions it, then the same rule will apply to all things mentioned in St. John's Gospel not found in the others. So Free Will Baptists did not invent it; none of the apostles condemned or opposed it; Christ established it. There is no act of Christ so minutely described in the Bible as this simple act. Nothing is omitted—every detail given —not even our Lord's baptism is so minutely described as the simple act of washing the disciples' feet. Why so particular? There is a reason for it. It was a simple, oriental custom, and is today, a household duty—made sacred and holy by the Master—placed in the church for a purpose—a duty—an example.

This single action of Christ is singled out of all His actions and minutely described, because God in the form of man is teaching humility to His church. I have done it; so do you—it was not new, it was an old custom—with a new meaning—a spiritual meaning—an everyday household act—made a church act—given a spiritual meaning.

The unleavened bread used in the supper was not new. The Jews had eaten it for fifteen hundred years—once a year. It was not new; it was an old creation! Jesus took this old custom, placed it in His new church; gave this old custom of unleavened bread a new meaning, a spiritual meaning. "Eat it in remembrance of me; till I come again." Jesus ate the unleavened bread in His own house—once a year. Christ took it and made it a custom in His house, the newly constituted church, and gave it another meaning—a spiritual meaning. Likewise, washing feet was an old custom among the Jews. Jesus takes this old custom; places it in His house—the church, and gives it a new spiritual meaning.

So long as man is vain, proud, boastful, he needs and will need a lesson of humility and brotherly love. Christ could not humble Himself in a better way, if He could have He would have chosen the better way. Again, Christ could not have chosen a better way to teach His disciples a lesson of humility and a life of service.

"The Son of Man is not come to be served, but to serve." There was no better way to teach this precept than by serving them, and He served. "Ye are servants, not masters: I have given you an example." I have taught you how to serve. The Christ, Master, Lord, served. "Do ye also." The first Free Will Baptists knew no better than to follow the Master, accepting Him, the Blessed Christ their Saviour, Priest, King and Lawgiver.

They could not do otherwise than follow His teachings, and be true servants. The world must excuse them for their blind stubbornness in persisting in following and practicing this holy example of Christ. Having accepted Christ, Free Will Baptists know no other authority for doctrine. Their critics must forgive them for simply doing what Jesus said "ye ought to do." The only real, true authority Free Will Baptists can give for washing feet is Jesus Christ.

Free Will Baptists believe in the resurrection, judgment, eternal life for the saved in Christ, eternal punishment for the unsaved out of Christ, home and foreign missions, Sunday schools, and all good works which God hath foreordained we should walk in; we should speak where the Bible speaks, be silent when it is silent, and accept the New Testament as an infallible guide for faith and doctrine. Free Will Baptists recognize no earthly head of the church—"Christ is the head of the church"—no earthly power has the right to dictate to the church. "My kingdom is not of this world"—church and state cannot mix.

The Free Will Baptists recognize God's Word as supreme authority on all divine things.

Now, reader, I have briefly stated what "Free Will Baptists Believe and Why." I have not worried you with book, chapter and verse, but can do so. It is yours now—all I ask is a fair, honest investigation, and you shall try us. We plead guilty to the charge of believing and preaching these things.

And, dear reader, all we ask is to be tried by the New Testament in all fairness. Free Will Baptists are willing to be judged and condemned by the teachings of the Christ. So mote it be. This is a simple little affair. No claims are made for it except that it is a statement of facts believed and taught by Free Will Baptists.

"Not unto us, not unto us, oh Lord, be the glory, honor and power, but unto Thee. Amen."

Dr. E. L. St. Claire delivered this sermon over 35 years ago. Sometime after that, it was printed in booklet form. Because of the nature of this work, it was felt worthy of being reprinted.

NOTICE

All conference clerks and secretaries of bodies in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists are reminded that minutes for the *1982 YEARBOOK* are due at the Press 30 days after meetings are held. All are asked to respond accordingly.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 46

AN INBORN DESIRE

Nearly three hundred years ago, Jonathan Swift said, "Every man desires to live long, but no man wants to be old."

Oliver Wendell Holmes said, "To be seventy years young is something far more cheerful than to be forty years old."

God has given these wondrous promises to His people: "With long life will I satisfy him and shew him my salvation" (Psalm 91:16); "And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you" (Isaiah 46:4).

Grow old along with me,
The best is yet to be!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The truest end of life is to know the life that will never end.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

Scripture Reading – Psalm 121

THE JOURNEY IS TOO GREAT

Come ye yourselves apart and rest a while,
Weary you are of the press and throng;
Wipe from your brow the sweat and dust of toil,
And in My quiet strength again be strong.

Come ye aside from all the world holds dear,
For converse which the world has never known;
Alone with Me and with My Father, here,
With Me and with My Father, not alone.

Come, tell Me all that ye have said and done,
Your victories and failures, hopes and fears;
I know how hardly souls are wooed and won,
My choicest wreaths are always won with tears.

Come ye and rest! The journey is too great,
And ye will faint beside the way and sink;
The bread of life is here for you to eat,
And here for you the wine of love to drink.

Then, fresh from converse with your Lord, return,
And work till the daylight softens into even;
The brief hours are not lost in which ye learn,
More of your Master and His rest in Heaven.

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint (Isaiah 40:31).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Scripture Reading – Psalm 54

POWER TO THE FAINT

The Bible does not say that the Lord helps those who help themselves. The Lord helps those who admit their helplessness: "O our God . . . we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee" (2 Chronicles 20:12).

Help of the helpless,
O abide with me.

PRAYER THOUGHT

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength (Isaiah 40:29).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

Scripture Reading – 2 Timothy 2

IT SPUN CRAZILY

A Northwest Airlines Electra frantically radioed to the control tower, "No control!" The plane spun crazily from the sky seconds after takeoff, struck a railroad embankment, and exploded! All thirty-seven passengers aboard, including a mother and four children, perished!

The shores of time are strewn with moral and physical derelicts who went down in defeat and despair because of *no control.* With many, there was a time when they boasted, "I know where to draw the line!" But they didn't.

Satan is too wise to ask anyone to plunge precipitously into sin. He lures his victims on a step at the time, until he brings them to the point of no return—". . . taken captive by him at his will" (2 Timothy 2:26). He does not ask a young man to become an alcoholic, but a man of *distinction.*

PRAYER THOUGHT

How quickly a man of distinction can become a man of extinction!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

Scripture Reading – Mark 7:14-23

ONE CHROMOSOME TOO MANY!

Daniel Hugon, a Frenchman, was adjudged guilty of murder. He was given only a seven-year

sentence because of an extenuating circumstance: he had one chromosome too many!

During the trial, exhaustive and involved testimony was given by researchers and professors on whether an extra Y chromosome makes men "born killers."

The experts attested that it did not but agreed that its presence precipitated troubles of comportment and honor.

The jurors concluded that a man thus unbalanced from birth should not be severely punished for his crime.

Sin in the "desperately wicked" heart of man is the basic cause of crime.

PRAYER THOUGHT

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders (Mark 7:21).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

Scripture Reading – Psalm 104

"HOW MANIFOLD ARE THY WORKS!"

How remarkable are the facts about thunder, storms and lightning given in an editorial of *The Austin (Texas) American Statesman:*

Still only half understood, the thunderstorms that fill summer skies with jagged light and rolling sound are among nature's most fascinating phenomena.

They generate electricity and spread fertilizer. Thunderstorms—44,000 a day—crash down on every continent but Antarctica.

An average thunderstorm releases fifty times the energy of the first atomic bomb. Yet it begins as a column of gently rising air—warm, moist, walled by a chimney of cooler air, and topped by a cottony cumulus cloud.

This thunderstorm "cell" of rising warmth, if conditions are just right, gains power as it lifts. Air expands and cools. It begins wringing out its load of water vapor. Droplets form and grow heavier. The cloud boils higher and darker. A "cumulus gone wild" becomes a thunderhead. The greatest violence occurs 15,000 to 25,000 feet in the air.

How this crackling dynamo works is scarcely understood, two hundred years after Ben Franklin's time. But scientists say that lightning, flashing between earth and clouds, continuously recharges nature's electrical system.

Lightning, in addition, combines nitrogen and oxygen in the air into priceless fertilizer for the soil. Rain washes it down. An estimated 100 million tons of usable plant food is thus produced each year, far more than all the fertilizer man makes!

PRAYER THOUGHT

In contemplation of God's wondrous works, we exclaim, O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches (Psalm 104:24).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

Scripture Reading – John 14:1-14

WHAT HE CANNOT LOSE

Said Jim Elliot, the Wycliffe Bible Translator who was martyred by Ecuador's Auca Indians, "He who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose is no fool!"

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish" (John 10:28).

PRAYER THOUGHT

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

News from the

Children's Home

EVERETT CHAPEL VISITS DURING JUNE



The Children's Home can always count on the folks at Everett Chapel. Each year they come to campus and give a cookout for the children. This year the group delivered a stereo donated by one of the members.

Everett Chapel people don't stop there, however. Their church is always a leader in contributions from the Western Conference. Thank you and God bless you all!

NEWS & NOTES

SPECIAL SERVICE AT WHITE OAK CHURCH



Pictured from left to right: Mrs. Alva Jones, the Rev. Walter Sutton, the Rev. Frank Williams Jr., Victor Riggs, Mrs. Gladys Salter, and Sandra Riggs.

On June 21, 1981, White Oak Free Will Baptist Church near Maysville, North Carolina, held a special service to celebrate the payment of indebtedness against the church. The Rev. Walter Sutton, head of the Eastern Conference Home Mission Board, joined with the pastor, the Rev. Frank Williams Jr., and the congregation in this joyous occasion. Everyone participated in the note burning activity; afterwards refreshments were enjoyed by the congregation and visitors.

Special Services Held at Smith's New Home Church

On Sunday, June 21, 1981, special services were held at Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church near Deep Run, North Carolina. Everyone knew that a special Father's Day program had been planned. Excitement grew as the morning worship time drew near. The service began under the direction of the minister, the Rev. A. B. Bryan.

During the service the youngest father was honored—Mr. Murril Tyndall, along with the oldest father present—Mr. Johnnie Smith. They were ushered to the front by the junior ushers and presented a token gift by the pastor. Then Mr. Jessie Grainger Hill was recognized as the father of the year. He had been selected by secret ballot in the Sunday school the previous Sunday. Some of the remarks given about him by the pastor are as follows: "He is a special man. His church has always come first. Brother Hill has served in many areas of the church and has been a deacon for many years. Brother Grainger and Mrs. Oma Caroline, as we all know her, have five children and have been very successful in rearing their children and have been very influencial in the community and church."

Benjie Bryan, son of the pastor, soloist, called the congregation to worship. Later in the service, young Bryan was introduced to deliver the message in which he used several solo numbers in connection with the message. One of the solos was in honor of his dad; he made mention of using the same song, "I Want to Be Just Like My Dad," on Father's Day thirteen years before as his first solo in church.

At the end of the worship service an invitation was given. The closing prayer was led by the pastor. It was a great service for everyone attending.

Recent and Upcoming Events At Ayden Church

On July 26, a baptismal service was held at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, during the Sunday night service. The pastor, the Rev. David T. Ricks, baptized three individuals and received one individual by letter.

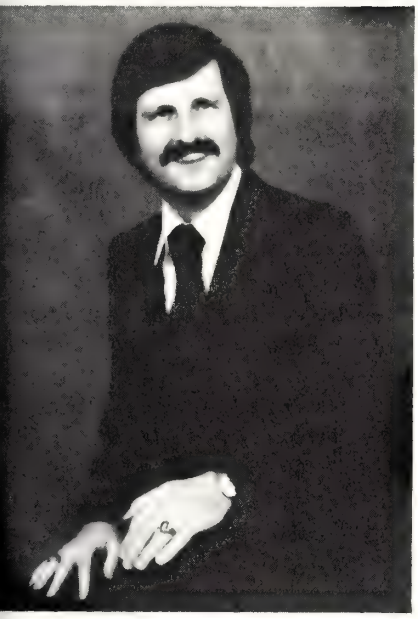
As an upcoming event, the Prescott Family will present a gospel sing at the Ayden church, on Sunday, August 9, at 7 p.m. The pastor and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend this event.

Faith Mission Has Fun Day

On July 25, Faith Mission of Leland, North Carolina, met for Sunday school at 10 a.m., and worship services at 11. The worship service was opened with prayer and saying the pledges to the flags and the Bible. This was followed by a very inspiring message, "Why We Should Greatly Appreciate Our Nation," by the pastor, the Rev. Luther Swinson.

After the benediction, everyone assembled in the fellowship hall for a picnic lunch and fellowship, after which many enjoyed some fun and games. The biggest event of all was the watermelon eating contest. Everyone enjoyed the day and look forward to another one next year.

Revival Services to Be At Mount Tabor Church



The Rev. Joe Griffith

Revival services will be held at the Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church near Creswell, North Carolina, Monday, August 3, and will continue through August 8. Services will begin at 8 p.m. The Rev. Joe Griffith, pastor of Saint Paul church, Elizabeth City, will be the guest evangelist.

There will be special music presented each night. The pastor, the Rev. Dewitt Cleve, and the congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to attend these services.

AFC's of Gethsemane Church Visit Shut-ins

The AFC's of Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, visited the elderly shut-in couples of their church on Sunday, July 19. The youths presented fruit baskets to the shut-ins, read Scripture, sang songs, had prayer, and recited the 23rd Psalm. Those participating were Mrs. Audrey Jordan, leader; Julia Pennington, assistant leader; Carla Ricks; Lisa Jones; Lisa Moore; and Ann Walston. After the visits the AFC's had their meeting for July and the leaders gave them a treat of ice cream cones. The church is truly proud of its young people.

Fifth District Youth of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Fifth District of the Eastern Conference Youth for Christ Rally will meet on August 8, 1981, at Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina, at 7:30 p.m. Youth from all churches in the Fifth Eastern District are urged to attend. One church will be able to take the banner home with them.

Youth Revival at Hickory Grove Church

The youth of Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bethel, North Carolina, cordially invite everyone to attend a youth revival on Friday and Saturday, August 21, 22, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Jack Mayo. Special singing is scheduled each night. Also a singspiration will be held on Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. with the King's Children from Wilmington, North Carolina. The Rev. Leon Harris is pastor of the church.

Heaven Bound to Be At Hugo Church

The Heaven Bound will present a gospel music program on Sunday, August 9, at 7 p.m., at Hugo Free Will Baptist Church near Grifton, North Carolina. The public is invited to attend. The Rev. Tom Miller is pastor of the church.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Clayton, North Carolina, is in need of a full-time pastor. Anyone interested should contact N. C. Cole, Route 1, Box 491, Clayton, North Carolina 27520; phone, 553-5350; or J. C. Blinson, Route 3, Clayton, North Carolina 27520; phone, 553-6714.

ECU MEDICAL SCHOOL ANNOUNCES SEMINAR ON AGING

"Ministering to the Aging" is the theme of a seminar to be held in Greenville, on September 18, for ministers and other interested persons, sponsored by the East Carolina University (ECU) School of Medicine.

Dr. Dan Blazer of Duke University Medical Center, a nationally recognized lecturer on aging, will conduct the seminar. Dr. Blazer, a psychiatrist, has specialized in assisting the religious community in its ministry to the elderly. During the morning session Dr. Blazer will give an overview of the problems and complexities of aging in a society whose population is getting steadily older but that is still quite youth-oriented. Following lunch, Dr. Blazer will lead two more sessions. The first will feature a series of "role-playing" exercises that Blazer has developed to give participants a feeling for what it is to be elderly. The final afternoon session will be devoted to a discussion of resources for ministers and other professions who work with the aging.

In announcing the seminar Dr. Edwin Monroe, associate dean of the medical school, said, "We recognize the crucial role of ministers in the lives of our older citizens. We hope this seminar will assist them in their understanding of the problems of the elderly."

Complete information and registration forms for the seminar will be mailed to ministers and others who work with the elderly during the next few weeks. If further information is desired now, please contact Dr. F. M. Simmons Patterson, Office of Continuing Medical Education, ECU School of Medicine, Greenville, NC 27834.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 16

REPENTANCE AND RESTORATION

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 30:1-10

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 30:8

I. INTRODUCTION

In our study of Deuteronomy we have noted the principal themes upon which Moses dwelt in his discourses to Israel. First, there was the covenant, for Deuteronomy is a covenant book. This involved God's offer and Israel's response. There was instruction, including the recital of God's mighty acts on behalf of Israel and the terms of God's proffered covenant. There was exhortation to "keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do" (29:9). There were also promises of the blessings that would follow obedience and warnings of the evil that would result from disobedience.

The promises and warnings were significant, since they implied the possibility of failure. God, with His foreknowledge and His awareness of human nature, made provision for such failure, together with a means of restoration, as we have noted above. Deuteronomy 28 records the blessings that would accompany obedience to the covenant (vv. 1-14) and the curses that would follow if Israel became disobedient and unfaithful to God (vv. 15-68). Chapter 29, as we learned last week, includes a plea by Moses that the people be obedient.

Our Scripture for today is prophetic in its outlook. Moses recognized that at some future time Israel would be disobedient and would bring upon herself the curses of the covenant. The people would be scattered among foreign nations, exiles from the land that had once been theirs. Before any of this happened—in fact, before they occupied the Promised Land initially—Moses spoke to them of the possibility of a return to God and to the land, in that future time, with a reversal of their fortunes from evil to good. Actually, the lesson speaks of God's willingness, as a loving Father, to receive His prodigal people who would return to Him. It also speaks of the conditions that would be involved in that return—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. "This chapter is one of very deep interest and importance. It is prophetic, and presents to us some of the 'secret things' referred to at the close of the preceding chapter. It unfolds some of those most precious resources of grace treasured up in the heart of God, to be unfolded when Israel, having utterly failed to keep the Law, should be scattered to the ends of the earth."—C. H. Mackintosh

B. After having predicted the fall of all the Jewish people, Moses, in this lesson today, predicts their repentance and restoration. It is clear from the study of the printed Scripture and the background Scripture that many of the Israelites had the wrong conception of repentance. They seemed to feel that a mere profession of repentance should make right whatever wrong they had done.

C. Saying you are sorry when you are caught in a mistake is not repentance. Most people feel bad when they realize that they have done something wrong or hurt someone else. But real repentance is more than this.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Great would be the blessings upon Israel if the people kept the covenant with God, obeying His voice at all times and keeping the laws He gave to them. As a nation and as individuals they would prosper in the Land of Promise they would soon enter under Joshua. Every good thing would be theirs, and they would bask in the love of God, having overcome all obstacles through His power.

B. The picture looked good to Moses at the moment; he knew God would deliver them safely into the land and, even though he (Moses) could not go with them, he knew something of the victories they would win with God's power. But he also knew that these people had a history of backsliding and that there would be times when they would forget God and refuse to hear His voice. In such times God would punish them and even allow their enemies to defeat them, as they did at the battle of Ai.

C. Therefore, in order for them to know the way back to God—should they forsake Him—he felt it best to talk with them about repentance and restoration. If they would break the covenant and fall back into sin, they needed to know how to come back to God. The way back to God was then as it is now: repentance, confession, and restoration through the love of God.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MASTER TEACHERS



Good teaching is one of the hallmarks of Mount Olive College. Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, professor of Science, will begin her twenty-fifth year at Mount Olive this fall. Students shown with her (left to right) are: Leslie Lamm, New Bern; William Neal Tilghman, Cove City; Rebecca Prescott, Grantsboro; Mrs. Martin; Christine Gurganus, Newport.

THE FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM AND COLLEGE HALL

by W. Burkette Raper, President

The two questions I am asked most frequently these days are:

"When are you going to start College Hall?" and "Is the four-year program on schedule?"

It may appear that these developments are slow in becoming realities, but the very fact that Mount Olive is chartering its course toward progress is a tribute to its vitality. During the past ten years while 140 private colleges were closing and while many others have gone into retrenchment, Mount Olive has been making plans for advancement.

COLLEGE HALL

This building, which will serve as a physical education-athletic-civic and convention center has been in the planning stage since the mid-1970s. It is a facility that is critically needed and one that will enable Mount Olive to better serve its students, the surrounding community, and the Free Will Baptist Church. Estimated cost of the building is $2.5 million.

Gifts and pledges to date from more than 1,000 donors (individuals, churches, business firms, and foundations) have exceeded $1 million. Our goal is to reach $1.5 million by the end of October, and $2.5 million in 1982.

Inquiry for financing has been made to local financial institutions, but a primary restraining factor is high interest rates. Current prime is in excess of 20%, which on a $1.5 million loan could add as much as $1 million in interest to the cost of the project. Clearly, this additional cost is prohibitive.

So, What Are We Doing?

First, we are continuing to add new gifts and pledges to our assets for College Hall. The more funds we can have on hand, the less we will have to borrow. Instead of seeking a loan of $1.5 million, it would be a substantial saving to reduce the loan to $1 million or even $750,000. If our development efforts are successful, contracts can be awarded in time to have the building ready by the fall of 1983, but to achieve this schedule, construction must begin soon, in no event later than next spring.

Second, we have engaged a reputable contractor to assist in reviewing the architectural drawings and specifications for the purpose of identifying possible economies in construction and materials. We do not plan to sacrifice the quality or function of the building, but we are searching for every feasible reduction in cost.

Third, we are exploring alternate methods of financing. As long as prime bank rates are in excess of 12-14%, a conventional loan is out of the question. Fortunately, the 1981 North Carolina General Assembly passed the "Higher Education Revenue Bonds" Act which, if approved in the general election next May, will enable private colleges to issue

Turn the Page

tax exempt bonds for buildings. These bonds would provide capital funds at an affordable interest rate.

College Hall will be built, but the date will depend upon the schedule of our gifts and pledges and the rate of interest.

THE FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM

In 1977, the Free Will Baptist State Convention asked the College Board of Trustees "to work aggressively toward making Mount Olive College a four-year institution," and in 1979 the College submitted to the Convention a five-year, $7.5 million gift-support budget to achieve this goal. The project for College Hall, which is essential for a four-year program, represents one-third of this budget.

Also included in the budget is $1.3 million for endowment and $3.7 million for educational development.

We expect to maintain our schedule of adding the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. Under this plan, students who enter in 1982 can be in our first baccalaureate graduating class in 1986.

Specific Steps

Definite decisions are being made to attain four-year status.

Faculty. Since 1979 two faculty members with Ph.D. degrees have been added, which brings to three the number of full-time teachers with the doctorate. Three additional faculty members are currently engaged in doctoral studies, and by 1984-85, when the junior year is added we expect to have eight doctorates and by 1985-86 our goal is ten, which will represent approximately fifty percent of our faculty in the first areas in which baccalaureate majors will be offered.

To encourage and assist faculty members in their post-graduate study, the Board has authorized a program of tuition assistance and academic leave.

Curriculum. The selection of areas for academic majors is under study. Because of the specific needs of the Free Will Baptist Church, which sponsors Mount Olive College, religion was given priority. A committee composed of representatives from the faculty, the ordaining councils and mission boards of the Church, and College Trustees has been working for the past year on a curriculum for those who will be preparing for the ministry and other church-related programs. The report of this committee is expected to be made to the Board of Trustees this fall.

Additional majors will be determined during the 1981-82 academic year. It is anticipated that three to five majors will be provided for students who enter in 1982, with other majors to be added according to the interests of students and the availability of funds.

Library. A key requirement for a senior college program is adequate library resources. Currently, the College has in excess of 30,000 volumes, but this number should reach 40,000 by 1984 and approach 50,000 by 1986. With the purchase price and cost of cataloguing a book reaching $20, and with additional personnel needed to process the new books and to serve the student body, a five-year gift support of $500,000 is needed for the library alone.

Summary

There are other requirements for the senior college program, including additional faculty members, educational equipment and housing for a large student body. Moreover, educational standards must be maintained to assure that our students receive the quality of education that will equip them for a meaningful vocation and a life with purpose. Above all, the Christian commitment which has sustained Mount Olive College from the beginning must be continued and strengthened wherever possible.

Our ultimate goal is not simply a four-year program but more effective educational services to our students and to the Free Will Baptist Church which gave birth to Mount Olive College. This commitment will require all the resources of mind, body, spirit and finance we can bring to it, but the goal is worth the cost.

STUDENTS MAY STILL APPLY FOR FALL

The fall semester at Mount Olive College begins with the arrival of students on Sunday, August 30.

"Students who have not already made application for admission still have time to do, but they should act promptly," President W. Burkette Raper stated. "We expect to have all dormitory space for both men and women filled."

Financial aid is also available, including scholarships, grants, student employment, and education loans. The policy of the College is to provide assistance for worthy and qualified students up to the level of their need. Although a number of Federal Student Aid programs are being cut, Mount Olive College expects to maintain its practice of not denying admission to qualified students for financial reasons.

Interested students are encouraged to visit the campus. Those who cannot come to the campus may write or call: The Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, telephone, (919) 658-2502.

The Admissions Office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Those who cannot come during these hours are invited to make appointments for visits in the evening or on Saturdays.

(Continued on Page 13)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

It is almost time for the State Convention, annual Conference meetings, and fall Woman's Auxiliary Conventions. Mark the meetings on your calendar and make plans now to attend!

AUGUST

21, 22	Piedmont Conference (Place to be announced)

SEPTEMBER

16, 17	State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists Lenoir Community College, Kinston
24	Eastern Conference WA Convention Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, 5 miles south of New Bern
26	Central Conference WA Convention King's Cross Roads, near Farmville

OCTOBER

7	Albemarle Conference Plymouth Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth
7	Western Conference WA Convention (Place to be announced)
14	Cape Fear Conference WA Convention Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Four Oaks
15	Western Conference Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Kannapolis
15	Albemarle Conference WA Convention Corinth Free Will Baptist Church, Jamesville
17	Pee Dee Association Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, 9 a.m.
21, 22	Eastern Conference Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton
29	Cape Fear Conference Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Goldsboro

NOVEMBER

3	Pee Dee Association WA Convention Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Whiteville
4	Central Conference Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Hugo
7	Piedmont Conference WA Convention East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Luther Bissette is available for pastoral or supply work. He has resigned as pastor of Dilda's Grove Free Will Baptist Church which he has pastored for almost eight years. He can be reached by writing him at Route 1, Sims, North Carolina 27880; phone, 235-4573.

The Rev. J. R. Matthis announces that he is available for supply or part-time pastoral work. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted by writing him at 600 Cutchin Street, Clinton, North Carolina 28328; phone 592-5436.

Mount Olive College

(Continued from Page 12)

CHAPLAIN HARRISON TO SPEAK

The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain at Mount Olive College, will speak at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, on Sunday, August 9, 1981. He will be at both the morning and evening services.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the resignation of the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey as Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., and the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc., effective August 15, 1981, a Search Committee has been appointed consisting of Walter Sutton Jr., Chairman; Robert Bell; Carolyn Eakes; James B. Hardee; Walter Reynolds; and Charles Sullivan for the purpose of securing a new Executive Director. Applications may be submitted to Walter Sutton Jr. at Route 2, Box 100-A, Vanceboro, NC 28586, or to any other member of the Committee.

Pastor of the Week

The Rev. Dewey Boling

Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Garner, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. Dewey Boling, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

Our Prayers Are Answered

submitted by Palmer Memorial Woman's Auxiliary



The Rev. and Mrs. Dewey Boling

God has promised us in His Word that He will supply all our needs if we will only put our faith and trust in Him. But sometimes our faith fails us and we begin to worry and doubt.

On May 25, 1980, our pastor resigned after his morning message. Our church was stunned at what we heard. Nevertheless, we had a job to do and that was to look for a new minister.

We began to pray and seek the Lord's guidance as to what to do and which way to go. A pulpit committee was selected and we started traveling to various places and talking to people.

In August, 1980, our pastor left and a former minister, the Rev. R. W. Allman, who is now retired, offered his assistance until we could secure a successor. The entire membership is eternally grateful to Preacher Allman and Mrs. Allman for what they did for our church during this time.

We spent many hours in prayer and meditation, seeking God's will for our church and trusting that He would direct to us the man He would have to lead our people.

In December, 1980, God answered our prayers. God moved on the heart of the Rev. Dewey Boling and led him to contact our pulpit committee chairman. After talking with Brother Boling, the committee unanimously felt that truly the Lord was in this. Brother Boling and Mrs. Boling visited the church a few times and became acquainted with the members of the church. On March 15, 1981, Brother Boling preached his first sermon as pastor of Palmer Memorial church.

The Woman's Auxiliary gave a reception in the fellowship hall for Mr. and Mrs. Boling on March 22, 1981. Their son and daughter and their families were present for the occasion, which was well attended by the church members.

During the four months of Brother Boling's ministry at Palmer Memorial several souls have been saved, many rededications have been made, and inactive members have become active. We feel our church is really going to progress with this fine leadership and we could never thank God enough for sending the Rev. and Mrs. Dewey Boling to our church. We look forward to working with them in the years ahead for the advancement of God's kingdom.

COMING EVENTS

August—Entire month designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Month

August 7—State Home Missions and Church Extension Department will meet at the Haymount Mission, 7 p.m.

August 10-15—Woman's Auxiliary Conference, Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

August 10, 11—Ministers' Institute, Mount Olive College, Mount, Olive, North Carolina

NOTICE

Readers, take a minute right now and look at the address label on this copy of *The Free Will Baptist.* Is your address correct? If you live on a rural route, is your box number given? If you live on a street, avenue, boulevard, or lane, is your house number right? How about your name?

Please send **any** corrections that may need to be made to the Subscription Department, Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513. Your attention to this matter will save us money and help to insure your receiving the paper.

Thank you for helping us with this matter.

Editorial Department

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

been forgotten. We no longer live as a "peculiar people"—we seem to be of the world, not just in it. As Christians, we need Sunday; and unless we are prevented by sickness or circumstances beyond our control, we should be with God's people on the Lord's Day.

In conclusion I must ask, "Whatever happened to Sunday?" Do we not realize that the Resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith and that Sunday is the day we are to celebrate that glorious event? If we can do so many other things on Sunday, why can't we take time to worship? "It took the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the grave to give us the Lord's Day"; let us remember how it is written that we should "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).

Special note—The Southern Baptist Convention, in its 124th session which met June 9-11 in Los Angeles, California, went on record as opposing H. R. 84. Their resolution declared that the "switch 'would seriously affect' church attendance and distract from the traditional observance of Sunday as a day of worship and rest.' "

NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to thank the churches, auxiliaries, and many friends who sent cards and visited us while we were sick and in the hospital. Thank you most of all for the prayers that were sent up in our behalf. May God bless each of you is our prayer.

Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Godwin

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Royce Reynolds has a new address. It is Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865; phone, 927-3657.

It's Summer and It's Camp Time

Can You Accept the Challenge?

Activities for the Week of August 17-21 at

CAMP VANDEMERE



Canoeing and Swimming
Sports—Mini Olympics
Campfire Devotions—Communion
Scripture Music—Crafts—Hiking
Fishing for Our Supper
R. I. O. T. (Ridiculous, Interesting, Odd, but Timely)
Outing on Wednesday and Ferry Ride Down Neuse River
Bible Study and Theme "What We Are in the Body of Christ"
Banquet—Thursday Night (Recognition and Awards)

Application Form

Camp Vandemere August 17-21
Theme: "We Are One in the Body of Christ"
Ages 12 and Up

Camp Fee $40 (A deposit of $10 is requested along with application and balance upon arrival)
Need spending money and you can purchase a group picture for $3

Name of Camper _____ Sex _____

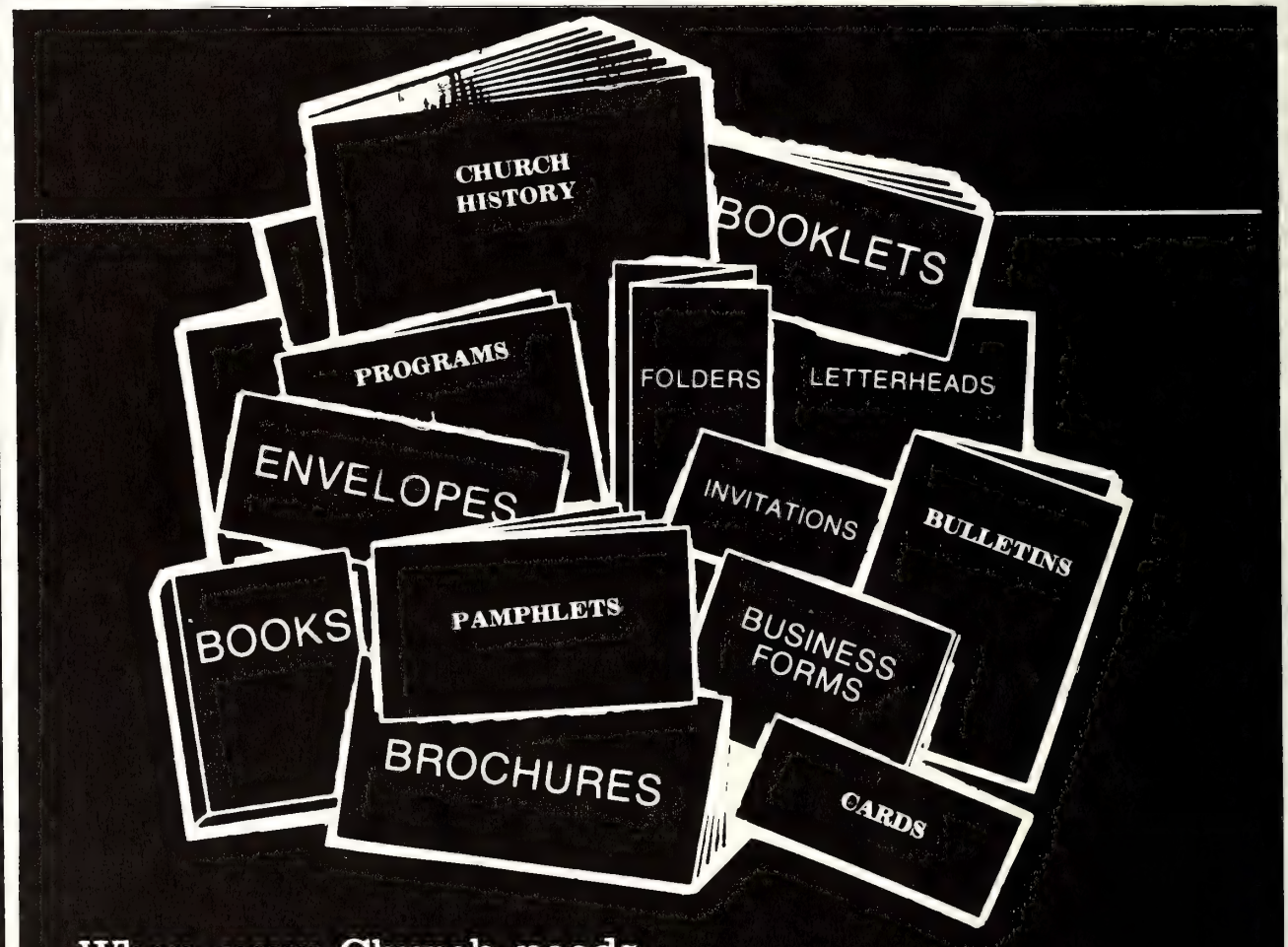
Address _____ Age _____

Phone _____ Church _____

Directors will be the Rev. and Mrs. Wayne King, 1316 Manchester Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501

Send your application along with the registration fee of $10 to the Rev. Wayne King. If you need any help or further information please feel free to contact us. We are looking forward to a great week and getting to know everyone. We are sure that this week will be a special one for you and all the staff look forward to meeting you.

In His Service,
Wayne and Deborah



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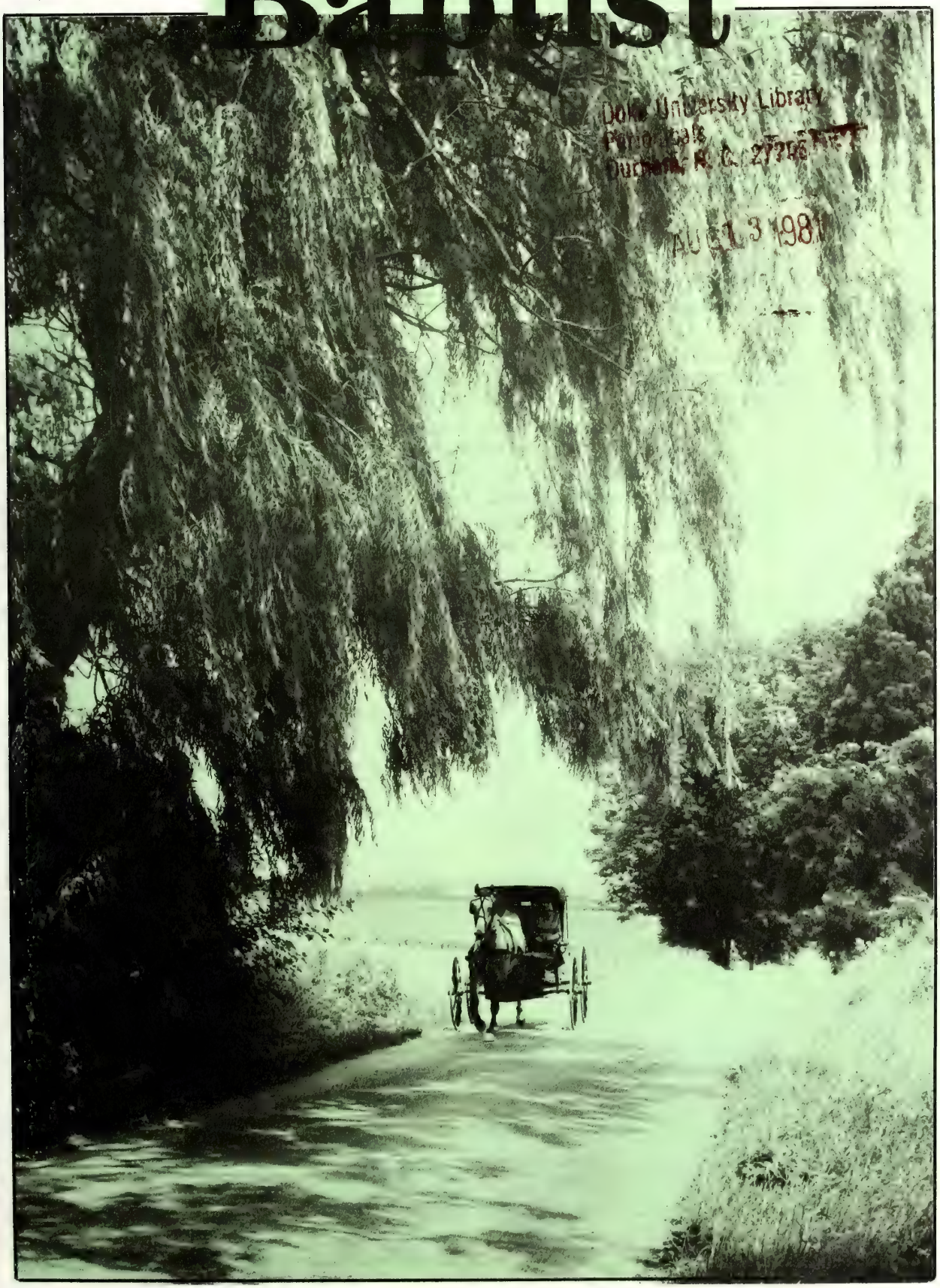
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Tie that Binds

John Fawcett pastored a small church in Wainsgate, a town in Yorkshire, England, many years ago. He faithfully attended to the needs of his congregation and loved his pastorate dearly. But at the end of his seventh year in Wainsgate, Mr. Fawcett realized that his family was growing too large to be adequately cared for on his meager wage; he saw no way things could continue as they were going. Even though he did not want to, he felt it necessary that he move to a larger parish. When such a call came, the humble preacher accepted.

Moving day soon came. When the last items were loaded on the wagon, it seemed that all was set for the journey. Around the wagon stood men, women, boys and girls—all crying over the loss of their minister and his family—all mourning the loss of their friends. The preacher and his wife were seated on the packed cases at the front of the wagon; they could not restrain their tears either, for their minds were filled with memories: There were the times that Mr. Fawcett had comforted grieving families when loved ones had passed on; those hours when anxious young fathers paced the floor awaiting the arrival of their firstborn; the young women and children Mrs. Fawcett had counseled, loved, helped in so many ways; around the wagon stood individuals with whom they had taken their Bibles and quietly, earnestly shown the way of salvation. No, the memories of these times could not be brushed aside—but neither did they want them to be.

Weeping, Mrs. Fawcett turned to her husband and told him they could not go. I can almost see the smiles break across the faces of the people as Mr. Fawcett gave the order for the wagon to be unpacked. Mr. Fawcett pastored the church for fifty years. It was out of his love for the people at Wainsgate that he wrote the following:

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

I know how Mr. Fawcett felt. It was on August 17, 1980, that I entered Durham County General Hospital. Because of the progression of my scoliosis (curvature of the spine), it became necessary that I have an extensive bone fusion and insertion of a Harrington rod. Surgery took place on August 19, and I left the operating room with a half cast. It was replaced

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Acting Editor of Literature.**

SPEAKING FOR GOD

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

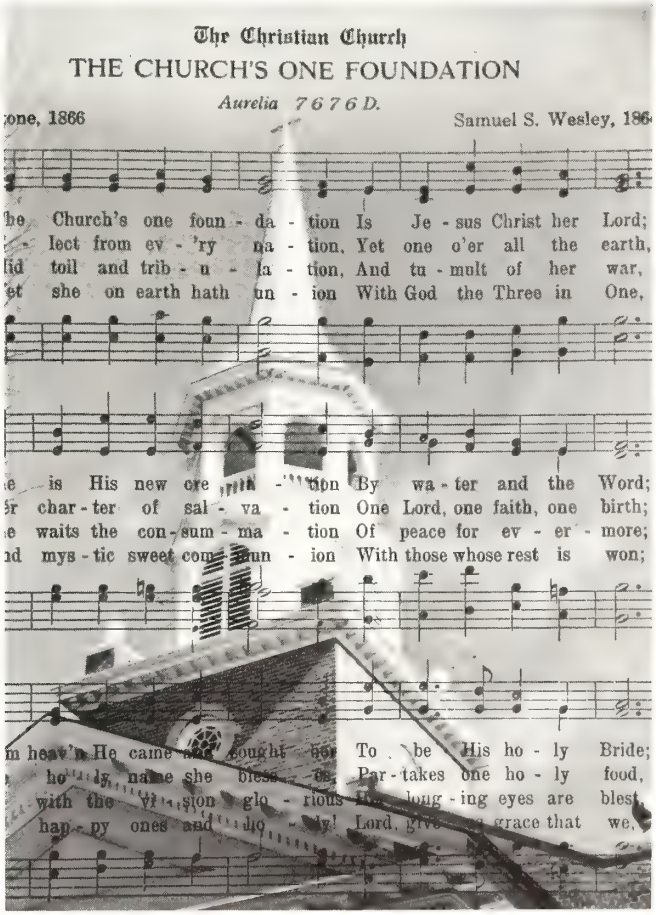
THIS story comes out of the French Revolution. In a certain prison a man had a Bible. The cell was crammed with men, and they wanted to hear the Word of God. Once a day, for just a few minutes, a small shaft of light would come through the tiny window near the ceiling. The men devised a plan whereby they would lift the man with the Bible onto their shoulders and into the light, and there he would study the Word of God. Then they would bring him down and say, "Tell us now, friend, what did you read while you were in the light?"

The preacher is God's called servant to study the Word of God and then on Sunday to tell those in darkness what it says. As the world gets darker and the times shorter, how meaningful the preaching of the Word becomes.

As I thought about the task of preaching, several things seem to become clear.

One thing that became clear is the *responsibility* of the preacher to become a student. Before any man is equipped to stand before people and tell them what God is saying, he must spend time in study and preparation. Probably the most neglected area of ministry is study. It is, granted, easier to do other, easier things. It is also easy to get side-tracked doing what appear to be legitimate things. But when these areas intrude into the preacher's study time, only too late does he realize that the preaching hour has arrived and his vessel is empty.

A second item that occurred to me is the *response* of the preacher to what he studies. The Word of God must change and challenge the preacher-student before it will reach the darkened heart as light and truth. It is one thing to read and study the Word of God to gather facts so as to be armed for speaking. It is something else to gather from the Word life-changing truths and principles that reach the depths of the preacher. Where his life has been impacted by the Word, more effectively will it reach the hearers in dramatic, life-changing ways.



A third item occurred to me, and that is the *requirements* placed upon the preacher through his study of the Word of God. That preacher who takes the Word seriously will hear the words, "Thus saith the Lord." The preacher will either ignore the summons and inject his opinion and compromise or he will face the summons and call his people to the ways of God. St. Augustine said, "If you believe what you like in the gospel and reject what you do not like, it is not the gospel you believe but yourselves."

A fourth item presents itself for consideration—the *rejoicing* possibilities for the preacher who shares the Word of God. When the preacher has shared the Light of the World with those despairing in the darkness, he has occasion to rejoice when men are liberated by the light and set free by the grace of the truth he proclaims. This is the joy of stealing away from the trivia and the easy in order to find what God is saying and then to return to the people with a word of hope and reconciliation, love and victory.

Lloyd Ogilvia tells of a great friend who often prayed with him just before he went into the sanctuary to lead worship and share the Word. Before the friend left he gave Ogilvia this parting encouragement: "Give 'em Heaven!" The privilege the prepared preacher has is that of giving hope and Heaven to men and women who are bankrupt of hope and blunted by the pressures of life.

May every servant who has the privilege of preaching the gospel take a new look at this opportunity. May he review its responsibility, his response to it, and its requirements. Let him then rejoice that God has called him to such a fantastic task.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

It is almost time for the State Convention, annual Conference meetings, and fall Woman's Auxiliary Conventions. Mark the meetings on your calendar and make plans now to attend!

AUGUST

28, 29	Piedmont Conference Cathedral Free Will Baptist Church, Durham

SEPTEMBER

16, 17	State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists Lenoir Community College, Kinston
24	Eastern Conference WA Convention Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, 5 miles south of New Bern
26	Central Conference WA Convention King's Cross Roads, near Farmville

OCTOBER

7	Albemarle Conference Plymouth Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth
7	Western Conference WA Convention (Place to be announced)
14	Cape Fear Conference WA Convention Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Four Oaks
15	Western Conference Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Kannapolis
15	Albemarle Conference WA Convention Corinth Free Will Baptist Church, Jamesville
17	Pee Dee Association Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, 9 a.m.
21, 22	Eastern Conference Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton
29	Cape Fear Conference Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Goldsboro

NOVEMBER

3	Pee Dee Association WA Convention Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Whiteville
4	Central Conference Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Hugo
7	Piedmont Conference WA Convention East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham

NEWS & NOTES

FUN AT YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE



The week of July 6-11 at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina, was one of fun, learning, and sharing for the AFC's of the Youth Frontier Conference. The Holy Spirit was present the entire time, even during the planning stages. There were 8 first-time decisions for Christ and several rededications.

The theme for the week, "I Am a Promise," was taught throughout all areas of the program: music, teaching, preaching, AFC Olympics, sharing, and a trip to Ghost Town.

The directors of the conference were the Rev. and Mrs. Doug Skinner. Staff members were Marsha Howell, Tammy Whitley, Wayne and Libby Taylor, Phillip Boykin, Bonnie Ford, Calvin Heath, Penny Murray, Becky Jo Sumner, Phil and Sheryll Wood, Joe Radcliff, and Hulon Whitehead.

Western District Youth Rally Met at Micro Church

The Western District Youth Rally met at Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, North Carolina, on Saturday night, July 25, 1981.

The program opened with the congregation singing "The Solid Rock." The Rev. Robert Langley of Barnes Hill church led in prayer. Miss Anita Hales, YFA program chairman, welcomed everyone and asked the entire group to stand and sing the State Youth Fellowship Auxiliary Chorus, "If You Know the Lord."



Dennie Morris, lead singer for the Missionaires of Pine Level



Nancy Boykin, president of Western District Youth Rally

Miss Mel Warren, YFA Secretary, read Psalm 98 and led "Into My Heart" for the invocation.

Nancy Boykin, president of the Western District Youth Rally and vice president of the State YFA, called the business session to order. Miss Becky Jo Sumner, State Youth Chairman, spoke on the topic, "What Do You Have in Your Hands?"



Left to right: Mr. Barbour; Mrs. Dot Barbour, Western District Youth Chairman; and Tim Wall, all of the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina

Approximately 350 people attended with Calvary receiving the banner for the most young people and the largest group. Calvary church is located in Wilson.

Micro Youth Fellowship Choir sang "The Solid Rock" and "Ten Thousand Years" directed by Johnny Finnell.

(Turn the Page)

The Missionaires singing group presented an excellent contemporary music program.

The altar call was given by the Rev. Clyde Cox of the Micro church. Ushers for the evening were Eric Pate, Jeff Dyson, Brad Sharpe and D. G. Jones.

Winterville Church Has Fun Day



It was "fun time" in Winterville on August 1! The Christian Fellowship Class of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, sponsored a Fun and Fellowship Day to raise money for their Organ Memorial Fund.

The little folks really enjoyed riding the mule and cart. The young women challenged the Missionary Baptist Church in a softball game. The men played the Missionary Baptist men in the second game. There were a lot of sore muscles Sunday as some of the players had come out of retirement.

Another favorite sport was the "dunking machine." The teenage boys gladly volunteered for this job as it was a nice refreshing way to cool off. However, some really desired to dunk the deacons, but did not get any cooperation.

The day was ended with a delicious barbecue chicken dinner; after which the Rev. Ed Taylor, pastor, thanked the crowd for making the day a success. Approximately $900 was raised.

Piedmont Conference To Meet

The Thirty-seventh Annual Session of the Piedmont Conference will convene on Friday and Saturday, August 28, 29, 1981, at Cathedral Free Will Baptist Church, in Durham, North Carolina. The church is located at 5224 Wake Forest Road (N.C. 98). Registration will start at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. All churches are asked to fill out the church letter and return it for the 1982 minutes. All ministers need to be present. If anyone is planning to spend the night and needs a place to stay, get in touch with the Rev. M. E. Cox, 519 Olive Branch Road, Durham, North Carolina 27703, phone (919) 596-1501.

NEW PASTOR IS HONORED WITH RECEPTION



The Rev Royce Reynolds and family

The Rev. Royce Reynolds and family were honored with a reception at the fellowship hall of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, on Sunday, July 19, 1981. Mr. Reynolds assumed the pastorate of the church on that date.

Upon arrival, Mrs. Reynolds was remembered with a carnation corsage and Mr. Reynolds was presented a carnation boutonniere.

Guests were greeted at the door by Mrs. Reba Osborne and introduced to Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds. Mrs. Mary Ann Harris presided at the guest register. Special guests were Mr. Reynolds' mother and Mrs. Reynolds' mother and father.

Guests served themselves refreshments of finger foods. Punch was poured by Mrs. Mildred Leggett and Mrs. Lewellyn Wallace.

The reception was planned by the Ladies' Auxiliary with Mrs. Margaret Woolard, Mrs. Naomi Tankard and Mrs. Hazel Waters heading the planning committee.

Approximately seventy people attended the reception.

Micro Church Has Supper



Members and friends of Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, North Carolina, sponsored a barbecue chicken supper, on July 25, 1981, at the Micro Community Building. Approximately 550 persons were served.

Dennis Hinnant headed the committee arranging the supper, with funds going to the bus and building fund. The church will shortly begin construction of a 40' x 60' fellowship hall on the church grounds.

Fourth Central Union to Meet At Watery Branch Church

The Fourth Central Union Meeting will be held at Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Stantonsburg, North Carolina, on August 30, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "The Way of the Cross Leads Home"
—Welcome, Junior Lancaster
—Response, Kendrick Harrison
11:15—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Mission Report
11:30—Special Music, Harrell's Chapel
—Sermon, the Rev. A. G. Smith

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:15—Hymn, "Send the Light"
—Devotion, Donald Webb, Owens Chapel
—Program, Local Church
—Committee Reports
2:15—Adjournment of Today's Business

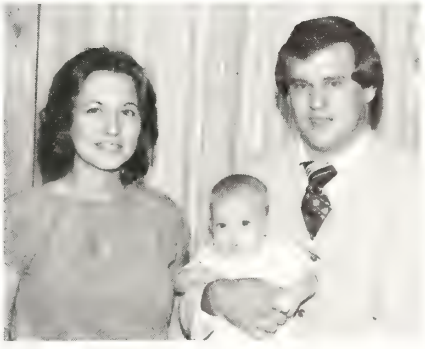
Pastor Resigns at Zion Church

The Rev. Donald A. Coates has resigned as pastor of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Blakely, Georgia, after three years of service. His resignation is effective August 31, 1981.

During his pastorate he served Zion church as a most capable and dedicated leader. The Scripture which describes him (1 Timothy 4:12) says that youth need not be a hindrance in serving the Lord. Donald is a living proof of the effective ministry of a young man. God called him into pastoral work and blessed him with courage, talent, creativity, and initiative. He enthusiastically used these gifts combined with a deep and abiding faith in God to lead Zion church, with God's help to successfully accomplish many goals.

A parsonage was completed and dedicated to God as the church celebrated the centennial on April 27, 1980. A youth program was organized with Donald serving as director. The 1980-81 youth program culminated in securing Tony Souder, a Mount Olive College graduate, as Youth Minister for three weeks. The deacon board was increased as three new deacons were ordained August 10, 1980. A young adult Sunday school department was organized. The high average attendance is indicative of the need and success of this class.

(Continued on Page 15)



The Rev. and Mrs. Donald Coates and Matthew

LEARNING TO SHARE AT BIBLE SCHOOL



Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church near New Bern, North Carolina had its daily vacation Bible school for 1981 recently. The average attendance was 55 children and teachers.

Each day's activities began with devotion, prayer, and a puppet show which told what had been seen on the way to Bible school. For some of the folks it was the first time attending Bible school. Everyone learned to share God's Word and learned new songs. There was a picnic on Friday.

The Middler Department learned the books of the Old and New Testaments.

There was a special gift for the boy or girl that brought the most friends. The winners were Beverley Smith, Johnathon Gaskins, and Kim Hines.

Commencement exercises were held on the last night.

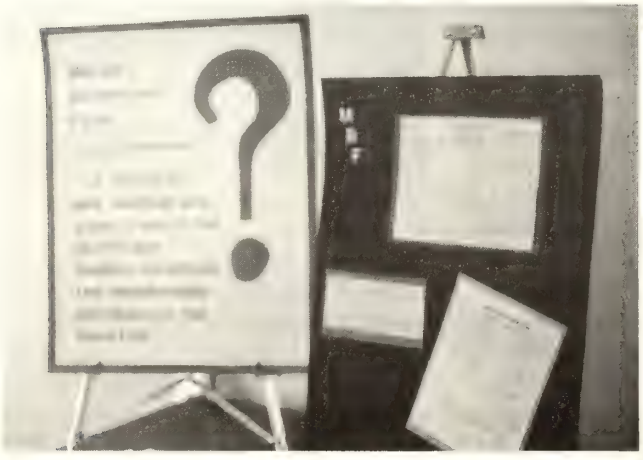
A GREAT MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

submitted by C. H. Overman



The Annual Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference, held at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina, July 20-23, was surely one of the best ever held. For those who attend each year, it is the highlight of Christian fellowship and blessings. There is no other occasion during the year that gives the Free Will Baptist minister the opportunity of fellowship, and the opportunity to hear his fellow ministers preach than this special gathering at the foot of Mount Allen. And although you can sit in a rocking chair at many different places, those rocking chairs on that long porch at Cragmont are just plain special.

The attendance at this year's session was the largest ever. A hundred and one ministers attended, along with at least twenty-eight ministers' wives. A total of ninety-three





ministers paid their membership dues, thus becoming members of the Association. There seemed to be a very special fellowship at this year's session.

As president of the Association, and in behalf of the executive committee, I want to express my deep appreciation to all who attended, and especially to the wives who were present with us. Also, our very special thanks to those who so graciously consented to be on the program. The theme, "Our Task" was so very aptly carried out by all the speakers. Many favorable remarks were made in reference to the messages, as well as to the seminar participants.

Ministers and wives, we hope you will plan to be with us next year. To those who were unable to attend this year, we hope to see you at Cragmont. Meanwhile, please keep your officers in your prayer thoughts, that we may truly be used in His hands to plan and perform those things that would be pleasing to Him and thus be a blessing to others.

The officers are President, C. H. Overman; Vice President, DeWayne Eakes; Secretary, Ray Wells; Treasurer, Ralph Sumner; Member at Large, Bobby Taylor.









Group Picture by Ed DuPuy. Other pictures by Walter Reynolds.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

COLLEGE DINNER PLANNING SESSIONS TO BEGIN



Mrs. Jean Ackiss, coordinator for 1981 church dinners

Planning sessions for the 1981 church dinners will begin Sunday, August 16, and continue until Saturday, September 12.

The total goal for the 1981 seventeen county dinners is $156,000. Since the dinners began in 1963, they have provided $1,328,850 in gift support for the College's general operating fund. Dinner gifts during the 1980 campaign totaled $143,867, an increase of $9,371 over dinner gifts in 1979.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the dinners is threefold:

1. To provide an opportunity for churches and friends to make gifts for the *annual budget* of the College. Mount Olive is making concrete plans to advance to four-year status, and these funds will help the College to move with firm steps on a solid financial foundation.

2. The dinners provide a means for the College to share information on its services to Free Will Baptists.

3. The dinners provide an opportunity for high school students to learn about the educational advantages of attending Mount Olive College.

The schedule for the 1981 planning sessions is as follows:

Pamlico County, Sunday, August 16, 2 p.m., Mount Zion church near Vandemere

Lenoir County, Monday, August 17, 7:30 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston

Greene County, Tuesday, August 18, 8 p.m., Hull Road church near Snow Hill

Wayne County, Thursday, August 20, 8 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro

Beaufort County, Friday, August 21, 8 p.m., Free Union church near Pinetown

Jones County, Sunday, August 23, 4 p.m., Friendship church near Trenton

Duplin County, Tuesday, August 25, 8 p.m., Cabin church near Beulaville

Craven County, Thursday, August 27, 8 p.m., St. Mary's church, New Bern

Onslow-New Hanover Counties, Friday, August 28, 7:30 p.m., Folkstone church

Nash County, Sunday, August 30, 3 p.m., Free Union church near Spring Hope

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Monday, August 31, 8 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro

Johnston-Wake Counties, Tuesday, September 1, 8 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield

Wilson County, Thursday, September 3, 8 p.m., Daniels Chapel church near Wilson

Pitt County, Tuesday, September 8, 8 p.m., Reedy Branch church near Winterville

Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, and Chowan Counties, Thursday, September 10, 7:30 p.m., Mount Tabor church near Creswell

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Friday, September 11, 8 p.m. Oak Grove church near Newton Grove

Carteret County, Saturday, September 12, 7:30 p.m., Crab Point church near Morehead City

CHAPLAIN HARRISON TO SPEAK

The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain at Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Pink Hill, on Sunday, August 16. He will speak at both the morning and evening services. The Rev. Ed Miles is pastor of Christian Chapel.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, on Sunday, August 16, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Harry Grubbs.

IN MEMORIAM

Cornelia Kilpatrick Summerlin Jernigan



Mrs. Cornelia Jernigan was born April 12, 1899, near Rose Hill, North Carolina, in Duplin County. She was the daughter of William David Kilpatrick and Nancy Cavenaugh Kilpatrick. She had four sisters, and two brothers. She joined the Dobson's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church near Rose Hill at an early age. In 1923, she united with the Rooty Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive.

On October 21, 1923, Miss Kilpatrick was married to Robert Lee Summerlin. To this union were born four children: Mary Grey Jones of Mount Olive, Olive Goodson of Greenville, Dr. Robert Lee Summerlin of Dublin, and Nancy Goodson of Kinston. She is also survived by six step-children: Florence Houston of Warsaw, Anna Lee Chambers of Kenansville, Zilphia Ivey Hinson of Mount Olive, Eva Southerland of Rocky Mount, and Ruby Jernigan Grady of Mount Olive.

On October 11, 1952, Mrs. Summerlin was married to Thomas Allen Jernigan. At the time of her death, there were 22 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Jernigan was faithful to her church and served in many capacities, as clerk, secretary,

(Continued on Page 15)

It's Summer and It's Camp Time

Can You Accept the Challenge?

Activities for the Week of August 17-21 at

CAMP VANDEMERE



Canoeing and Swimming
Sports—Mini Olympics
Campfire Devotions—Communion
Scripture Music—Crafts—Hiking
Fishing for Our Supper
R. I. O. T. (Ridiculous, Interesting, Odd, but Timely)
Outing on Wednesday and Ferry Ride Down Neuse River
Bible Study and Theme "What We Are in the Body of Christ"
Banquet—Thursday Night (Recognition and Awards)

Application Form

Camp Vandemere August 17-21
Theme: "We Are One in the Body of Christ"
Ages 12 and Up

Camp Fee $40 (A deposit of $10 is requested along with application and balance upon arrival)
Need spending money and you can purchase a group picture for $3

Name of Camper _____ Sex _____

Address _____ Age _____

Phone _____ Church _____

Directors will be the Rev. and Mrs. Wayne King, 1316 Manchester Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501

Send your application along with the registration fee of $10 to the Rev. Wayne King. If you need any help or further information please feel free to contact us. We are looking forward to a great week and getting to know everyone. We are sure that this week will be a special one for you and all the staff look forward to meeting you.

In His Service,
Wayne and Deborah



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 4:1-5

THE HIGHWAY TO RENEWAL

In addressing the Canadian Congress on Evangelism, Dr. F. D. Coggan, Anglican archbishop of York, said: "I had rather, ten thousand times rather, incur the divine rebuke for error in method, or even in doctrine, in a task done in obedience to His command, than I would hear Him say, 'I told you to go and you never went!'

"When we obey the command and unitedly go out on evangelistic work, I believe we shall find that it will be with us as with the lepers: 'As they went, they were cleansed!' As we go, we shall find renewal."

PRAYER THOUGHT

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11, 12).

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1:1-25

EVIDENCE OF GOD EVERYWHERE

Sam P. Jones said, "We see God all around us: the mountains are God's thoughts upheaved; the rivers are God's thoughts in motion; the oceans are God's thoughts imbedded; the dewdrops are God's thoughts in pearls!"

Long ago, as the psalmist looked at the star-studded sky, he exclaimed, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears, all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

Scripture Reading—James 2:14-20

WHEN TASKS ARE TOO HARD

Eleanor Roosevelt carried the following prayer on a paper in her purse: "May the Heavenly Father, who has set a restlessness in our hearts and made us all seekers after that which we can never fully find, keep us at tasks too hard for us that we may be driven to Him for strength."

Said Browning, "A man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a Heaven for?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded (2 Chronicles 15:7).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

Scripture Reading—Job 26:2-14

NEVER REDUCED

In August, 1969, an electric generator conked out and reduced by one-fifth the capacity of Consolidated Edison to deliver power to its customers in New York City during the hottest month of the year. A plea was made to reduce electric consumption because there was little reserve.

Power from on high is never reduced for God's children. Each one of them may be "filled with all the fulness of God" (Ephesians 8:19) by presenting themselves in emptiness to God and pleading:

"Hover o'er me, Holy Spirit,
Bathe my trembling heart and brow;
Fill me with Thy hallowed presence,
Come, O come and fill me now."

PRAYER THOUGHT

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength (Isaiah 40:29).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 3:7-12

CATTY CRITICS

The following letter to Ann Landers and her factual and heartsearching reply should silence many critics:

"Our minister is an embarrassment to the congregation. He is a very fine person and extremely conscientious, but he always looks tacky. His clothes appear to be worn, his shoes look rundown, and his shirt cuffs are frayed. His winter coat looks like something he picked up in a rummage sale. Please don't think I am being catty, but his wife also looks shabby. No one expects a minister's wife to be a fashion plate, but this woman is wearing dresses and hats that are at least eight years old.

"No one wants to tell the minister and his wife to shape up. They are compassionate, lovable people, and his sermons are the best, but we feel that, since they do represent us in

the community, they should not go around looking like charity cases. Any suggestions on how to get the message across? —MEMBER."

"DEAR MEMBER: You failed to give the most important detail. How much do you pay your lovable, compassionate, conscientious minister?

"Are you aware that half of the Protestant ministers in this country earn less than $8,000 a year? A chemist with comparable education earns approximately 50 percent more. Plumbers, electricians, and bricklayers often make twice as much as the man they listen to in the pulpit on Sunday.

"This situation is a national disgrace, and I hope you will go back and tell your fellow members that the reason the minister's coat looks like he picked it up at a rummage sale is because he probably did!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant . . . (Deuteronomy 24:14) *. . . for the labourer is worthy of his hire . . .* (Luke 10:7).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

Scripture Reading—Genesis 3:1-19

TRANSMISSIBLE

Recently a rabid mongrel terrier took refuge in a wooded area in England. The British government decreed the slaughter of all wildlife in the 3,000-acre, to prevent the rabies from obtaining a foothold among the wildlife of England.

Cledwyn Hughes, Minister of Agriculture, said, "We are dealing with a grim, dangerous, and deadly disease—rabies and I am determined that it shall not get a foothold in this country."

Rabies, also called hydrophobia, is usually fatal. It attacks the brain and central nervous system and is readily transmitted to man by the bite of an affected animal.

Sin is also a death-bringing malady which is transmitted by its victims to others: "The iniquity of the fathers (is visited) upon the children" (Exodus 20:5).

PRAYER THOUGHT

As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men (Romans 5:12).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

Scripture Reading—Matthew 7:24-27

A BLESSING IN RETROSPECT

Wallace Johnson, builder of numerous Holiday Inn motels and convalescent hospitals, said, "When I was forty years old, I worked in a sawmill. One morning the boss told me, 'You're fired!' Depressed and discouraged, I felt like the world had caved in on me. It was during the depression, and my wife and I greatly needed the small wages I had been earning.

"When I went home, I told my wife what had happened. She asked, 'What are you going to do now?'

"I replied, 'I'm going to mortgage our little home, and go into the building business.'

"My first venture was the construction of two small buildings. Within five years, I was a multimillionaire!

"Today, if I could locate the man who fired me, I would sincerely thank him for what he did. At the time it happened, I didn't understand why I was fired. Later, I saw that it was God's unerring and wondrous plan to get me into the way of His choosing!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Deep in unfathomable mines,
Of never-failing skill;
He treasures up His bright designs,
And works His sovereign will.

—William Cowper

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

News from the

Children's Home

QUARTERLY REPORT TIME

Our Quarterly Report of Religious Contributions will not be published this quarter due to the fact that we have switched to computer bookkeeping during this quarter and there are still some problems to be worked out. Beginning in August, we will publish a monthly report which will reflect the month's and year-to-date contributions from your church. Any questions which you have concerning this past quarter should be answered with that report; however, should you have any questions, please feel free to call us. Thank you for your patience as we make this change.

COMING EVENTS

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Month

August 17-21—Fourth Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

August 19—Children's Home Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina

August 29-31—Music Retreat, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

August 30—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

August 30—Mount Olive College Sunday in local churches

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. John S. Boykin has a new address. It is 819 North Rountree Street, Wilson, North Carolina 27893. His old address was 407 Glendale Drive, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 23

CHOICE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 30: 11-20

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 30:19

I. INTRODUCTION

Our lesson offers help to us in the matter of making wise choices. We learned last week that Israel would turn from God to the worship of idols. She would break her covenant with God and reject His righteous way. She would become corrupt, spiritually, socially, and morally. This did not have to be, but such would be her choice. The consequences would be the destruction of Jerusalem and exile to Babylonia. Here, however, by the grace of God, it would be possible to make another choice. And so our lesson of last week was entitled *Repentance and Restoration.*

Today we will consider the provision God made to help these people make and follow through on a wise decision. We will find that they were not left to their own wisdom. They had a sure word from God to guide them. And to move them to make this decision, the consequences of their choice—whether it be for God or against God—were clearly stated. They did not have to choose blindly.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Seven prophetic declarations are presented in the Palestinian Covenant set forth in Deuteronomy 28-30: (1) Israel was to be dispersed because of her disobedience and apostasy (Deuteronomy 28:63-68); (2) Israel would be converted while in this period of dispersion; (3) the second advent of Christ; (4) the restoration of the land; (5) Israel's future national conversion; (6) the judgment of the nations, Israel's oppressors; (7) the national prosperity of the millennial nation.

B. The *Scofield Reference Bible* makes the following statement about this covenant: "The Palestinian Covenant gives the conditions under which Israel entered the Land of Promise. It is important to see that the nation has never as yet taken the land under the unconditional Abrahamic Covenant, nor has it ever possessed the whole land."

C. The verses which we study today are the final warnings of Moses to the Israelites, admonishing them to keep this covenant. May we consider them as warnings to us who expect one day to enter the Land of Canaan which we call Heaven.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The great heart of Moses was filled with love and compassion for his people; he had been with them for forty years, wandering in the wilderness, ever pressing forward to the Promised Land. True, there had been difficulties; he had often lost patience with them—even so had God; but always they were his people. Now, here in the land of Moab, east of Jordan, waiting for God's directions to cross the river, knowing that he would not enter with them, Moses had reviewed their history, explained their laws again, and challenged them to accept and live by the renewed covenant. The covenant had first been given to their fathers and later expanded on Sinai, at which time the Ten Commandments were given, and now they were faced with a choice.

B. God has always been fair to man; he gave Adam and Eve a freedom of the will—they could choose to obey Him and live, or disobey Him and lose their lives eventually. God always *wanted* His people to obey Him and follow His will, but He has never, nor will He ever, force that will upon man.

C. So it was that in the last day of his life Moses placed a choice from God before his people. It was accompanied by a warning: if they made the wrong choice they would suffer; if they chose rightly they would prosper. All people, including ourselves, have had to recognize this choice and its consequences.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Choices Count—Charles M. Sheldon's *In His Steps* tells of a pastor who challenged his congregation to do in their businesses as Jesus would do. Edward Normans, editor of the *Daily News,* accepted the challenge. He cut out liquor ads, refused brutal prize fight stories, took up moral issues, and cut out the Sunday edition—which to many people had become a Bible. His staff thought he was crazy, advertising fell off, subscriptions were cancelled by the hundreds, but the editor finally proved through his practical Christianity that it pays to make the right choices.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

on September 2 by a complete body cast. During the time of my hospitalization—and afterwards as well—family members and friends stood by my bed. Ministers frequented my room (they will never know how much I appreciate their being there); they telephoned; they prayed. Prayers were lifted on my behalf by thousands. Cards came from nearly every corner and crossroads of our state. Employees of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its bookstores showed their love and concern, as did so many other individuals.

Last Thursday, July 30, 1981, my cast was taken off. The dramatics of this whole ordeal seem to be winding down, but through it all I have come to know the importance of Christian friends. In particular, I must mention the members of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, who have "pastored" the pastor and his family. They have offered encouragement when discouragement was all I knew, a hand when I couldn't make it on my own strength, a shoulder to cry on when the occasion called for one. They have cooked, cleaned, "babysat," been "there," and cared. My church family has exhibited an overwhelming display of Christian love. To everyone I say "Thank you and may God continue to bless us all."

Yes, I know how Mr. Fawcett felt when he penned those words so many years ago; "Blest be the tie that binds." So let it be.

Janie

News and Notes

(Continued from Page 7)

The *Zion Digest,* a monthly newsletter, was edited and published.

There is something for everyone in the Sunday worship services. Under the pastor's directorship, the choir attempts to extend the morning message, and a timely children's sermon for ages 8-12 is included.

Mr. Coates served as secretary of the Blakely Ministerial Association for the year 1980-81 and was nominated as Moderator of the Paul Palmer Conference for 1981-82.

Two events occurred during his ministry that proved to be a blessing to the Zion people. Donald married Suzanne Carr on May 5, 1979, and on March 19, 1981, a son, Matthew Albert Wayne, was born. Suzanne is also a faithful and dedicated Christian and complements Donald's ministry in many areas.

The members of the church wish to express their appreciation and gratitude for all the things that Donald and Suzanne have done for the church and community. It is the sincere wish of everyone that this family enjoy good health and abundant happiness as they move to accept the pastorate of Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church in Pine Level, North Carolina.

Reception at Moseley's Creek Church

There will be a reception honoring the Rev. W. H. Willis at Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church near Dover, North Carolina, on August 16, Sunday, at 3 p.m. Members and friends of the honoree are invited to attend.

In Memoriam

(Continued from Page 11)

treasurer, and teacher. She was named woman of the year in the local auxiliary in 1965. When the Lord called her to His heavenly home, she was serving for the 16th year as treasurer of the woman's auxiliary. Mrs. Jernigan strived to promote all denominational enterprises throughout her life.

She taught school for a number of years in different areas including Garners Chapel, Red Hill, and Summerlin. She was interested in community and state affairs and the welfare of all mankind.

Mrs. Jernigan was active until the Lord called her to His heavenly home on Tuesday, June 3, 1980. The funeral was held on Wednesday, at 4:30 p.m., at the Rooty Branch church, with her pastor, the Rev. Bryce Rouse officiating.

SHE TRAVELED THIS PILGRIM'S JOURNEY

She traveled this pilgrim's journey
With courage, patience, and love.
Always exemplifying a Christian character,
Trusting in the Lord above.

She showed concern for others
Especially in time of need.
Her loyalty, and devotion were continuously
Expressed in word, and deed.

She attended church services regularly,
Rejoicing, worshiping with the throng.
Her faith in God and love toward
Humanity made her very strong.

To her family and hosts of friends
She was so special while here.
We shall always remember her smiling
Face, and sweet voice of cheer.

She touched many lives and made
This a much better world.
Our prayer is we'll be reunited
When the gates of Heaven unfurl.

Precious memories, Ah! How they linger!
And we'll ever hold them dear
In that Holy City, where there is no
Night, and sorrow will disappear.

Zilphia S. Ivey

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Chet's Dream . . .

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AUG 21 1981



Editorial

One Man's Dream (or Nightmare?)

The lifeless body of Chester A. Bitterman III was recovered Saturday, March 7, from a parked microbus in Bogota, Columbia. The missionary linguist, who was associated with Wycliffe Bible Translators, had been shot once through the heart. Kidnapped 48 days earlier by a revolutionary guerrilla group, Chet (28) left to mourn his death his wife Brenda and two daughters, Anna Ruth (3) and Esther (1½).

Two months before he was kidnapped, Chet excitedly sloshed along remote jungle trails that led to the Carijona (Kah-re-Ho-nah) Indian village. It was with these people that he was to work; he was to be their "alphabet maker." To reach their village, he had to travel two hours aboard a single-engine plane, three hours down river by motor launch, and walk a muddy trail all day long. "To say that the trail was in bad shape was the best example of positive thinking I've ever experienced," Chet later wrote. "The mud was over the tops of our boots. And our guide walked three times faster than we did. They're not joking when they say, 'He who walks with an Indian walks alone.' " But he did get to meet the Carijonas.

Shortly after this, it was determined that Chet needed a gall bladder operation. Three days before his scheduled surgery a man disguised as a policeman knocked at the door of the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) guest house. It was 6:30 a.m., January 19, 1981. The occupants of the house were just getting out of bed. When the door was opened, six terrorists, hooded and armed with machine guns and revolvers, pushed their way in. They were apparently looking for Al Wheeler, the director of the Bogota SIL office. Since he was not there, Chet was taken instead. His abductors gave the linguist time to get his contact lenses and kiss Anna Ruth and Esther good-bye before pushing him into a SIL vehicle and speeding away. Thus, the odyssey had begun.

The big question was why. The answer soon came: "Chet Bitterman will be executed unless the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) and all its members leave Bogota by 6 p.m., February 19. (Signed) M-19 National Coordinator Base." The group claimed that the Wycliffe missionaries were CIA spies and were interferring with the culture of remote Indian tribes. The United States Embassy in Bogota and the Columbian government quickly challenged the guerrillas' claims.

The SIL stood firm—it wasn't time to leave Columbia, no matter what demands were made. The Wycliffe missionaries are dedicated to serving the forgotten people of the world, people neglected by isolation geographically and linguistically. Their working premise is that no group is too small or too isolated—"everyone should have the opportunity to read God's Word in his own language." It was the Wycliffe missionaries themselves who voted in 1975 that they would not

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 96 Number 31

August 19, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist**, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Punctuating Life and Death

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

FIVE days before his recent death, William Saroyan called the Associated Press to leave a statement: "Everybody has got to die, but I have always believed an exception would be made in my case. Now what?"

To at least some extent, I suspect, he was being facetious, putting words in his own mouth as he did with the characters about whom he wrote his short stories, novels and plays. Even so, there is more to it than meets the ear, not just for him but for all of us.

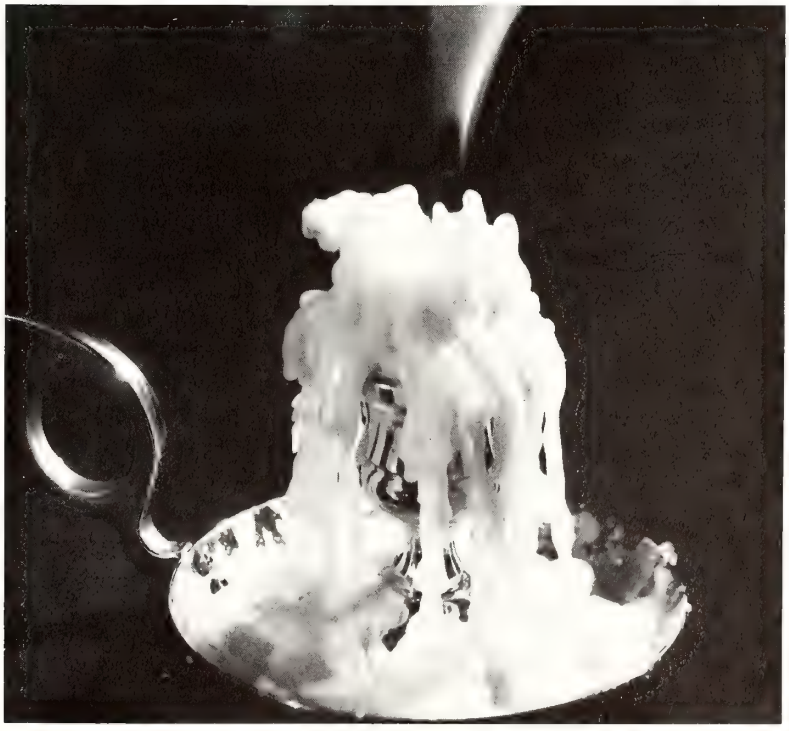
Mr. Saroyan was whimsical enough to say it out loud. Most of the rest of us, including us Bible-believers, have at some time had similar ponderments, though unvoiced and fleeting. The difference, it seems to me, is that, for the Christian, life can end with an exclamation point instead of a question mark.

This is not to say there are no question marks. Over the years I have heard many sermons preached on variations of "Now what?" Most of them charted everything from here to eternity with a precision that would do credit to the engineering of a spaceship. There was never any question in the speaker's mind that he had everything figured out from the last heartbeat on, down to estimated arrival time at various way stations, the latitude and longitude of Heaven (and Hell), and any and everything else.

I must confess that I am uneasy when I run into someone who thinks there are no question marks at all and who could, if asked (or even if not), draw a picture showing exactly what Heaven is like. Personally, I don't care whether the streets are paved with gold. I am not even sure that streets are an indispensable part of it. Those who have passed along inspired scriptural clues were faced with the immense problem of describing the indescribable, translating heavenly visions into sentences with subject and predicate. Sometimes, as in prayer, all that results are "groanings which cannot be uttered," or, as the Living Bible puts it, "such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words" (Romans 8:26). I think there is nothing wrong with a few question marks. To assume that one has all the answers is to exhibit a sophomoric naivete.

Where, then, does our confidence lie? What makes it possible for the Christian to come face to face with the realization that there may well be "no exception," and at the same time not be shattered by a "Now what?"? The way, I think, is to recognize the adventure in what lies ahead.

(Turn the Page)



Not acceptance only, but excitement. Not needing to care so much about what, when one knows Whom.

On the Cross, the Lord told the repentant thief, "This day thou shalt be with me in Paradise." It is the "with" that is important, not the where. Though Omar Khayyam had something a little different in mind in his *Rubaiyat,* there is an application here:

> "—and Thou
> Beside me singing in the Wilderness—
> Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow!"

I have always found confidence in the words of Jesus to His disciples: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:3). Not many specifics. An earlier verse speaks of "many mansions" in the Father's house, but whether of marble or stucco or aluminum siding, I do not know. Or care.

We also don't know how we shall spend the time (Talk about a "terrestrial" concept!), what we shall look like, how we shall get around, how we shall relate to others including our loved ones, what we shall wear. Such things Jesus does not tell in nearly the detail that some of His present-day spokesmen presume to offer. On earth, He did tell His followers not to be concerned about what they should eat and drink and put on, and the advice would seem to be at least as applicable to Heaven. What satisfies me is the assurance "that where I am, there ye may be also." If He is there, that's good enough for me. If I'm with Him, what better place to be, even if I cannot begin to define "place" or have a floor plan in advance?

What, I wonder, is the value of trying to determine our "celestial" nature? I have been always a little baffled by a phrase in the Apostles' Creed: "the resurrection of the body." I know what it means—that, somehow, personality and identity will be maintained. But a body as we know it? Here I am helped by the believer who freely admitted that he didn't know all the details: "It doth not yet appear who we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). Who needs Gray's *Anatomy?*

Well, you do it your way. This is my way to face the future without getting so hung up on details that I have no energy or motivation left to do what God has given us to do in the present. If we—if I—can let God handle the question marks, the result will be a glorious freedom, a buoyant confidence, a release of enabling power.

Now what?

Now what!

As for me, I want to punctuate my life now—and my death when it comes—the second way.—Stan Mooneyham

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (August, 1981).

LET IT GROWL . . .



for 30 hours and help hungry people!

Let it growl . . . your stomach, that is. During the Planned Famine 30-hour meal-missing marathon, you and your group will find out about hunger. Not just the grim statistics, but *what it feels like* to go hungry. You'll get an accurate report on world hunger and investigate God's counterplans, as well as find out where you fit in. Thousands of young people who have experienced a Planned Famine now have a deeper commitment to those trapped in the hunger zone.

Join the many other Christians who have heard that still, small voice above the roar of growling stomachs. Go on . . . let it growl!

If you would like more information about this program, contact the Rev. Joe Ingram by writing to him at Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530; or by phoning (919) 734-5946.

NEWS & NOTES

Cape Fear Ministers' Conference to Meet

The Cape Fear Ministers' Conference will meet in the fellowship hall of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield, North Carolina, on Monday morning, August 24, at 10 a.m. The Rev. Walter Reynolds is scheduled to speak on Superannuation. All ministers in the Cape Fear Conference as well as any other interested persons are invited to attend.

Cape Fear Board of Ordination to Meet

The Ordaining Council of the Cape Fear Conference will meet in the pastor's study of First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield, North Carolina, on Monday afternoon, August 24, at 1:30 p.m. Any persons having business with this board are asked to be present at this meeting.

Second District Union Meeting And Sunday School Convention

The Second District of the Central Conference will have its Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, on Sunday, August 30, beginning at 3 p.m.

Second Union of Western Conference to Meet

The Second Union of the Western Conference will meet with Stony Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Middlesex, North Carolina, on Saturday, August 29, 1981, at 7 p.m. The moderator, the Rev. Robert Langley, and the host church cordially invite everyone to attend.

Cape Fear Union Meeting To Be Held

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Four Oaks, North Carolina, on Saturday, August 29. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. Alton Howard
—Welcome, the Rev. John R. Lee
—Response, the Rev. Floyd Smith
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Mark Hobbs
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. Leonard B. Woodall
Secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley

Attention!
ECU Students

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship at East Carolina University will hold its organizational meeting Monday, August 31, 7 p.m. at First Free Will Baptist Church, 2600 Charles Street, Greenville. All Free Will Baptist students are urged to attend this and all Free Will Baptist Fellowship meetings, and to attend First Church when in Greenville on Sunday. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. and worship service is 11 a.m.

Pastors, Sunday school teachers, and parents, please send the name and address of each Free Will Baptist student at ECU to Harry Grubbs, 3000 Briarcliff Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834. If the Greenville address and telephone number of the student is known please include that as well.

ARE WE DOING ENOUGH FOR GOD?

by Ray Proctor
Kenly, North Carolina

Have we ever stopped and thought of what God has done for us and what He expects of us? Jesus said that we must keep His commandments, but we are tempted each day. This only proves how much we need Jesus, for He was tempted many times. One time Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness for forty days and forty nights without anything to eat. Satan tempted Him by telling Jesus to change stones into loaves of bread. Jesus told him that bread won't feed men's souls—obedience to every word of God is what we need. The same applies today. We need obedience to every word of God.

Jesus was put on earth for one reason—to die for our sins. Do we appreciate it or just take it for granted? Jesus tells us, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." When we take up the cross, it won't be easy, for that's when we need to pray and let God take control of our

(Continued on Page 15)

News from

Foreign Missions

CLASS ENROLLMENT AT PALAWAN BIBLE INSTITUTE

submitted by Fred Baker



Palawan Bible Institute held enrollment for the 1981-82 school year on June 19 and 20. A total of twenty-one students have enrolled for this coming year. It was a time of greeting old friends and meeting new friends.

Classes were to begin on June 22. But by a decree of President Marcos all public and private school openings were delayed until July 6. After enrolling and spending the weekend, all the students returned home for the two-week delay period.

Twenty-one students have enrolled to study at P.B.I. Five of these will be studying at the second-year level. Sixteen will be studying at the first-year level. The students are composed of twelve ladies and nine men.

Enrollment is up by 50 percent over the enrollment of 1980. We thank the Lord for this. We are excited about the possibilities of this year at P.B.I. It will be the first time to operate with the kitchen and classrooms. God has been so good to us.

Please, pray for us as we begin our third year of operation at Palawan Bible Institute. It is a great responsibility that God has placed upon the faculty and staff. We need your prayers and support.



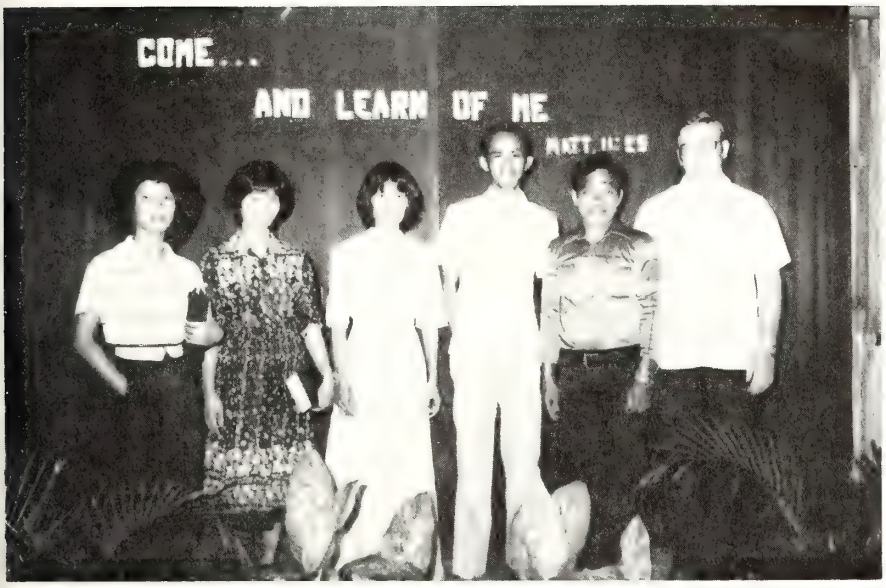
APPOINTMENT OF PALAWAN BIBLE INSTITUTE FACULTY AND STAFF

submitted by Fred Baker

Palawan Bible Institute has announced the appointment of the faculty and staff for the 1981-82 school year. A special service was held on Sunday night, June 14, 1981, at the Puerto Princesa Free Will Baptist Church to introduce the new members.

From left to right in the picture on the top of the next page are: Beatriz R. Manzano, Teacher Music Department; Esther A. Macolor, Administrative Secretary; Pablita O. Malinao, Kitchen Supervisor; Ludgerio E. Malinao, Dean of Faculty and Teacher; Pio dela Rosa, Garden Supervisor and Student; Fred Baker, President and Teacher. Beatriz R. Manzano, Esther A. Macolor and Ludgerio E. Malinao are all graduates of Palawan Bible Institute.

We had asked you to pray for the filling of these positions and God has wonderfully answered. P.B.I. is indeed thankful for



Palawan Bible Institute faculty and staff

these men and women to work together this coming year. We have chosen the theme verse for the faculty and staff this year from 1 Corinthians 3:9: "For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." The faculty and staff have a special faculty and staff prayer meeting every Monday morning at 7 a.m. This time is spent thanking God and seeking His guidance.

The faculty and staff have pledged ourselves to work together with God in fulfilling the task He has called us to do. Would you pledge to pray and support these as they labor in the vineyard of the Lord? You can be a part of this exciting ministry. We are counting on you. God will greatly bless you.

THE REWARDS AND ADVANTAGES OF A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

by Mattie Lou Link



It was a regular day at school. The little girls of ages 12 and 13 were getting in groups again. When would they learn that Christians don't get together in little cliques, isolating others and whispering about each other? Their emotions are so strong at that age and often so uncontrolled. Break time was over and one sweet little girl said to me quietly, "Mrs. Link, I've got to talk with you."

Everyone was seated with their backs to the center of the room. We stood in the center of the room. Expecting to hear of some "friend's" problem, I looked at her troubled eyes and said, "Okay, no one is around. What's bothering you?"

She looked carefully around, to make sure no one was within hearing distance. I wondered what had happened at break. "It's . it's ," still she hesitated. Then she blurted out. "It's about me. I'm not sure if I am a Christian."

"Oh," I said acknowledgingly. "Okay, let's go into the other room."

I picked up my Bible, making sure the other teacher saw me as we left. In another room, I had the joy of going through the plan of salvation with her even though I knew that she was familiar with it. I explained the verses and we prayed. She prayed so sweetly and tenderly that I began to weep quietly.

Then I asked her, "Does God lie?" Nodding negatively she looked at me in surprise, as I continued. "In Romans 10:9 it says "that if you believe that God has raised Him (Jesus) from the dead and that if you confess with your mouth, then thou shall be saved." You have told me with your mouth that you believe Jesus is alive and wants to save you and live in your life and I heard you pray to God and ask Him to save you, so what has happened?"

A big smile. "God saved me!"

We prayed once more and I shared 1 John 5:11-13 and John 5:24. I hugged her and we returned to class. We were gone only about seven minutes—but who could put a value on the importance of those few minutes?"

"Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified" (Psalm 70:4).

NOTICE TO ALL CHURCH CLERKS

If you have not received your State Convention Report Blanks, please let me know. You may call me at 735-3916 (office) or 734-0714 (home).

All report letters should be mailed prior to August 31, 1981.

Gary M. Bailey, *Secretary*
North Carolina State Convention
Of Churches

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Treasurer's Report

End of First Quarter, July 31, 1981

Balance in Bank, April 30, 1981			$4,327.42
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Contributions	57.80		
Life Award Fees	10.00		
Promotional Fund (CSF*)	66.74		
Registration Fees	1,010.00		
Per Capita Dues	27.10	1,171.64	
Denominational Enterprises		8,960.38	
Total Receipts			10,132.02
Total for Which to Account			14,459.44
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		1,387.93	
Denominational Enterprises		8,960.38	
Total Disbursed			10,348.31
Balance in Bank, July 31, 1981			$4,111.13
Banks			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)			$1,111.13
Church Finance Association			3,000.00
			$4,111.13

Total receipts this quarter include all monies received at the State Convention. Total disbursements include allocations made by the Convention. For itemized list see the report of the Finance Committee in the minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, *Treasurer*

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions):			
General Fund	2,014.86		
Taylor Hill, Medical Expense	10.00	2,024.86	2,024.86
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	19.60		
Mexico	225.00		
India Pastor	60.00		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	885.39	1,189.99	1,189.99
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	55.68		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	86.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund	6.00		
Books	15.00		
State Project (Chapel Parking Lot)	415.50		
Peter Tingem (Foreign Student Expense)	717.32	1,295.50	1,295.50
Free Will Baptist Children's Home			
General Fund			
Clothing			
Child Support			
Child's Christmas Gift			
Music Lessons			
Corelleware and Stainless Steel			
State Project (Media Center)			
Superannuation			
Retirement Homes			
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.			
Life Membership Fees (Cragmont)			
Central Conference Missions			
*Christian Service Fund:			
Mount Olive College			
Missions			
Children's Home			
Cragmont			
Retirement Homes			
Superannuation			
Totals			

*10 percent retained for promotional, (see receipts $66.74)

News from the

Retirement Homes, Inc.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
July, 1981
Total $1,193.55

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Mount Olive	$ 20.00
Wooten's Chapel	23.55
Total	$ 43.55

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Bethany	$ 25.00
Rose Hill	150.00
Tarboro, First	75.00
Total	$250.00

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Holly Springs	$175.00
Saints Delight	350.00
Total	$525.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Highland Pines	$100.00
Total	$100.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Friendship	$100.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Wilson, First	150.00
Total	$275.00

656.50		
350.00		
235.00		
50.00		
30.00		
178.00		
872.55	2,372.05	2,372.05
	88.80	88.80
	222.80	222.80
	1,130.68	1,130.68
	25.00	25.00
	10.00	10.00
133.49		
133.49		
100.12		
100.12		
66.74		
66.74	600.70	600.70
	$8,960.38	$8,960.38

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Ernest Carlton Taylor

On Monday, December 22, 980, God called Mr. Ernest Carlton Taylor home. Mr. Taylor, known to everyone as Carlton, was 60 years old. He lved at Broad Creek near Newport, North Carolina.

His funeral was conducted on Wednesday afternoon, December 24, 1980, at Sound View Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, North Carolina. The Rev. Francis Garner, pastor of ound View church, and the Rev. John Ashe, pastor of Broad Creek Church of God officiated. Burial was in Gethsemane Memorial Gardens, Highway 24.

Carlton was a retired Civil ervice worker from Cherry Point, North Carolina. He was lso a veteran and served over wo years of combat duty.

He was survived by his wife, Junie Belle Taylor; two aughters, Mrs. Brenda aynor of Lexington, South arolina, and Mrs. Sylvia Babb f Broad Creek; and a grandild. He had two sisters, Mrs. ois Lewis of Gales Creek, and

(Continued on Page 15)

SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION CONTINUES IN BEIRUT DESPITE BOMBS AND BULLETS



Lebanese civilian hears the good news about Jesus Christ from Bible distributors in the streets of Beirut.

Dodging bullets and bombs, an intrepid team of Bible distributors transported 1,700 Bibles and 6,500 New Testaments across the Beirut firing line in Lebanon recently, according to reports reaching the American Bible Society. The books were taken to West Beirut from the Bible Society's warehouse in the eastern part of the city. Their ultimate destination was Syria.

Despite the bombardment and bloodshed in the eastern Lebanon town of Zahle, the Bible Society distribution secretary for Syria was able to reach Beirut from Damascus. The Damascus-Beirut road was under seige by Syrian peace-keeping troops and Lebanese Christian militia.

According to reports, the fighting has been so fierce in the city that staff members and their families have had to evacuate their homes and find temporary lodging in safer locations. The fighting has not deterred Scripture distribution, however. While the war has prevented staff members from going to the main office each morning, they are able to work in different parts of the city to spread God's Word.

"Many Bible Society staff take the opportunity whenever there is a calm atmosphere to distribute these books," Lucien Accad, the Lebanon Bible Society's on-the-spot secretary, said. "The Scriptures bring great comfort to these people, and to all of us during this time of stress. Please pray for us; we are under siege, but greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world."

NINE VOWS MADE BY A DYING 20-YEAR-OLD MAN

submitted by Harold Jones

A recent newspaper carried this very touching and meaningful feature:

Our wonderful son, only twenty, was buried yesterday. He died of leukemia after a valiant fight that lasted five years. In his wallet we found the following item.

"JUST FOR TODAY—I will live through the next 12 hours and not try to tackle all of life's problems at once.

"I will improve my mind. I will learn something useful. I will read something that requires effort, thought, and concentration.

"I will be agreeable. I will look my best, speak in a well-modulated voice, be courteous and considerate.

"I will not find fault with friend, relative or colleague. I will not try to change or improve anyone but myself.

"I will have a program. I might not follow it exactly, but will have it. I will save myself from two enemies—hurry and indecision.

"I will exercise my character in three ways. I will do a good turn and keep it a secret. If anyone finds out, it won't count.

"I will do two things I don't want to do just for the exercise.

"I will be unafraid. Especially will I be unafraid to enjoy what is beautiful and believe that as I give to the world, the world will give to me.

"I will reveal to others the peace Christ has given me."

—J. D. Carlson

NOTICE

The District Layman's League of the Central Conference will meet at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, on September 14, at 8 p.m.

Fred Wainright, *Secretary*

BOOKS OR DOGS

by Beverly Ballard

". . . of making many books, there is no end . . ." (Ecclesiastes 12:12).

"A dog is man's best friend!"

This is a well-known adage. I disagree in principle.

Materialistically speaking, I believe *a book* is man's best friend.

Christ is man's only dependable friend, spiritually speaking.

I have nothing against most dogs. (There are some who snarl and snap at strangers because their masters saw fit to mistreat them.) I have always delighted in having a dog of my own, or having one as a pet for my children until they grew up. I still hold nothing against a good dog for a pet.

However, I go back and reiterate: A BOOK is really man's best material friend.

This may raise a question by many.

I ask you: When you get sick or someone has an accident, what do you do? Call a doctor? Yes. But, if a doctor is not immediately available and you do not know what to do, you look for the *Medical Dictionary* or *First Aid Manual.*

Books.

When you encounter problems in your business—a machine malfunctions, a computer goes on the blink—what do you do? You get out the manual for that machine or computer and do all you possibly can to trace down the trouble spot before finally turning to the manufacturer.

More books.

If there are problems in the home, such as handling the children's temperaments and other psychological situations, you get down a book by some famous psychologist. You compare some experience in your own life with one discussed in some publication you can trust; you seek out an answer. Of course, if that doesn't work, you make an appointment with a psychiatrist.

But, we still turn to a book first, if it is available. It saves money if we can solve these type problems without the technical advice of a highly paid specialist.

There are books of all kinds on the market today. There are the classics from Shakespeare, Chaucer, Tennyson, and other authors of the era when English literature was at its peak.

Of course, the greatest book—I speak of *The Holy Bible*—is an all-time best-seller. People still seek out its truth; they feed off its wisdom and spiritual food. What home is complete without a portion of God's Word in print?

Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:15, 16, ". . . from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures . . . All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

So, really the "one-stop" Book, if properly studied, can answer a lot of the questions secular books break down into more modern-day language. Now we have so many translations and paraphrased editions, we can be selective and read parallel Scriptures that will

enhance our understanding of some phrases and word usages.

Sometimes we neglect to study and read the Bible. We overlook the fact that it serves as a love story, a book of deep adventure, mystery and mastery. So many are the uses of this great Book—the infallible, factual Word of God.

So, back to our text. We have nothing against our canine friends. They can be helpful as seeing-eye dogs, police dogs, life-saving dogs (as in Alaska), in-house pets, and outside watchdogs, just to name a few.

But we still maintain that dog is not man's "best friend"—we believe books, and most especially the Bible (and Bible-oriented books) are better friends; next to Christ, who is indeed THE BEST FRIEND anyone could ever want.

NOTICE

The Fifth Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul, North Carolina, on August 29, 1981, at 9:30 a.m. Brother Livingston Jones will have charge of the opening devotions. The Rev. David Cauley will deliver the morning message.

Carolyn Brigman, *Secretary-Treasurer*

The Book Corner

by DeWayne Eakes

Bagley, Daniel. *Understanding Anger in the Church,* Broadman Press, Nashville, Tennessee; 1979.

Dr. Bagley's book dealing with Paul's admonition that we "be angry and sin not," is written as an eyewitness report of the driving forces behind the alienation of church members within the local congregation. This book is based on extensive interviews and follow-up of one hundred alienated church members. This writing is based on his intensive experience as a chaplain, as an associate pastor, and as a seasonal senior pastor. As Dr. Wayne E. Oates comments in the foreword, "This is no armchair speculative guesswork. This is not just some wise person's expert opinion. It is tested research. (p. 6)."

What's the answer to manifestation of anger in the church? Dr. Bagley says one solution is a better understanding of the situation at hand. He suggests that a better understanding of church members must include a search for better approaches to the appropriate experiences of anger, disappointment and irritation among the saints. This book is designed to help pastors, deacons, and every concerned Christian reach "a proper understanding of how anger occurs in the local congregation, how it is expressed, and how it may effectively and responsibly be channeled in the Christian community."

The chapter titles are as follows: 1. The Many Shades and Shapes of Anger; 2. First Step: A Self-Check List on Anger; 3. The Healing and Helping of Anger as Depression; 4. The Angry—Outspoken; 5. The Angry—Afraid; 6. The Angry—Numb; 7. The Angry—Manipulative; 8. The Care of Anger as Withdrawal; 9. An Ongoing Ministry with the Angered.

I commend this book to clergy and laity alike as a very honest and spiritually sensitive guide to the understanding and channeling into constructive use of the emotion of anger. This book is available through our Free Will Baptist bookstores.

COMING EVENTS

August—Entire month designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Month

August 17-21—Fourth Week of Camp, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

August 19—Children's Home Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina

August 24—State Convention Executive Committee will meet at the Holiday Inn of Kinston, North Carolina, at 9:30 a.m.

August 24—Stewardship Committee of the State Convention will meet at the Holiday Inn of Kinston, North Carolina at 7 p.m.

August 27—The Revision Committee will meet at the Holiday Inn of Kinston, North Carolina, at 9:30 a.m.

August 29-31—Music Retreat, Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina

August 30—Second District of Central Conference Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina

August 30—Mount Olive College Sunday in local churches



SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 112

DISTORTED

A guide in Trinity College showed Charles H. Spurgeon a bust of Byron. As Spurgeon gazed at it, he exclaimed, "What an angelic face! What nobility it reflects!"

"Step this way," said the guide, and he showed Spurgeon the other side of the bust. Spurgeon was horrified as he looked upon the distorted, dissipated face which so realistically portrayed Byron when living immorally, in reckless disregard for the norms of society.

Within each one of us is inherent potential for both good and evil. Transformed by God's grace, we may reach the highest pinnacle of achievement for God and man. Going into ways of sin, we may descend to the lowest depths of depravity and degeneracy.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour (Psalm 8:4, 5).

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

Scripture Reading—Psalm 119:1-8, 97-104

THE GREATEST PENOLOGIST

Samuel J. Barrows, an American criminologist, said, "We speak of Howard, Livingstone, Beccaria, and others as great penologists who have profoundly influenced modern life. But the principles enunciated and the methods introduced by Jesus seem to me to stamp Him as the greatest penologist of any age. He has needed to wait, however, nearly twenty centuries to find His principles and methods recognized in modern law and penology."

PRAYER THOUGHT

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee; but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (Micah 6:8).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

Scripture Reading—Luke 16:19-31

PAYDAY SOMEDAY

A tribe in Africa elects a new king every seven years. The serving king has unlimited power even over life and death. He is honored and surfeited with every possession and luxury known to savage life. There is only one catch: At the end of his seven-year reign he is killed!

Every member of the tribe knows about the long-standing custom, but there are always applicants for the job of king. In exchange for seven years of power and luxury, the men are willing to sacrifice the remainder of life's expectations.

Someone may say, "Oh, well, what does it matter? They are only ignorant savages." Yet, in our modern, enlightened civilization men of intelligence and rare leadership ability are making a similar choice between possession of things now and bankruptcy hereafter.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 8:1-14

HAZARDOUS INDULGENCES

In commenting upon the first landing of United States astronauts on the moon and their return to earth, Dr. Owen Chamberlain, Nobel prize-winning physicist, said, "It shows that mankind can be in charge of his own destiny!"

Kenzo Tange, Japanese architect, said of the lunar landing, "It should evoke a new recognition of the greatness and stature of men!"

It is hazardous to indulge in the glorification of man and arrogate to give ourselves praise for accomplishments, ignoring the help of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Proud, arrogant Nebuchadnezzar did this to his own destruction: "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?" (Daniel 4:30). *After God reduced him to bestial level, he confessed, "Those that walk in pride he (God) is able to abase"* (4:37).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Scripture Reading—Psalm 33:12-22

AN UNASHAMED IRISHMAN

In a social gathering, attended by representatives of different nations, a Frenchman, an Englishman, and an Irishman were chosen to speak for their respective nations.

The Frenchman spoke of the grandeur of his nation—its

scientific achievements, art and architecture. "I am proud to be a Frenchman," he said. "However, if I were not a Frenchman, I would be an Englishman."

The Englishman stood and spoke glowingly of his nation's contribution to literature and its representative form of government.

Not wanting the Frenchman to be more gracious than himself, he concluded by saying, "But if I were not an Englishman, I would want to be a Frenchman."

The Irishman stood and quipped, "If I were not an Irishman, I would be ashamed of it!"

How relatively few Americans prize sufficiently the greatness and grandeur of our nation, with its freedoms and limitless opportunities. The obscurest and poorest may reach the highest pinnacle of greatness and achievement for God and man.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said:
"This is my own, my native land!"

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

Scripture Reading—Job 10

WORSE THAN DEATH

On July 29, 1958, Dag Hammarskjold, the Secretary General of the United Nations, wrote these words in his diary: "The only value of a life is its content for *others*. Apart from any value it may have for others, my life is worse than death. How incredibly great is what I have been given!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:12, 13).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

Scripture Reading—Luke 15:11-32

"PLEASE, OH, PLEASE HELP!"

Said Art Linkletter, whose daughter Diane became a victim of hallucinatory drugs and committed suicide, "My eyes filled with tears when I read this letter from a desperate mother in Santa Ana, California:

" 'My Dear Mr. Linkletter: Please, oh, please help me! My son is a drug addict and tried to commit suicide twice last week. I do not know where to turn for help. Please, please, can you help me save my son? He said he is too much trouble to me and that this was the best way. I love him so much, and we, his family, need him. My son is 19. He is a wonderful boy. He is intelligent, with an IQ of 137, plays the guitar beautifully, and once was in love with life.

" 'He held jobs from the time he was 15. He bought himself a new car, surfboard and guitar equipment. Then came the drugs, and everything went! He now has nothing. We have kept up the payments on the car but everything else is gone. I never know if he is alive or dead. When the phone rings, I don't know what the news will be! I pray. That is all I can do. Please help my son! Please! Oh, tell me how to help him!' "

Is any sorrow so poignant as parental sorrow?

PRAYER THOUGHT

O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son! (2 Samuel 18:33).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*

ECU MEDICAL SCHOOL ANNOUNCES SEMINAR ON AGING

"Ministering to the Aging" is the theme of a seminar to be held in Greenville, on September 18, for ministers and other interested persons, sponsored by the East Carolina University (ECU) School of Medicine.

Dr. Dan Blazer of Duke University Medical Center, a nationally recognized lecturer on aging, will conduct the seminar. Dr. Blazer, a psychiatrist, has specialized in assisting the religious community in its ministry to the elderly. During the morning session Dr. Blazer will give an overview of the problems and complexities of aging in a society whose population is getting steadily older but that is still quite youth-oriented. Following lunch, Dr. Blazer will lead two more sessions. The first will feature a series of "role-playing" exercises that Blazer has developed to give participants a feeling for what it is to be elderly. The final afternoon session will be devoted to a discussion of resources for ministers and other professions who work with the aging.

In announcing the seminar, Dr. Edwin Monroe, associate dean of the medical school, said, "We recognize the crucial role of ministers in the lives of our older citizens. We hope this seminar will assist them in their understanding of the problems of the elderly."

Complete information and registration forms for the seminar will be mailed to ministers and others who work with the elderly during the next few weeks. If further information is desired now, please contact Dr. F. M. Simmons Patterson, Office of Continuing Medical Education, ECU School of Medicine, Greenville, NC 27834.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 30

GOD IS FAITHFUL

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 32: 1-9

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 33:29

I. INTRODUCTION

The song never died from the heart or from the lips of Moses. At the time of our lesson he was an old man, soon to pass from this life. But still he could sing, and the theme of his song had not changed through the years. He sang of the Lord and of His protective care of Israel, and always his song was a song of praise.

Three songs are associated with Moses in the Scriptures. The first is related to the time of the Exodus from Egypt and sings of God's deliverance from the waters of the Red Sea (Exodus 15:1-18). Moses recognized this deliverance as a glorious triumph of the Lord. It celebrated not some speculative, mystical feeling about God, but an historical event. At a specific place, at a definite point in history, God had acted on behalf of Israel to bring about her liberation from the might of the Egyptians, and Moses considered this worthy of celebration in song.

In the Hebrew text there is a heading to Psalm 90 which states, "A prayer of Moses the man of God." This song seems to relate to a period somewhat after the departure from Egypt. It too sings praises to God, beginning with the words, "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations." The song takes note of sin in the midst of the people: "Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance" (v. 8). And there is a place for mercy.

Today we have Moses' final song—a song of farewell, to his people and to life on this earth. At its conclusion he blessed Israel, then answered God's call to ascend Mount Nebo, where he died and was gathered to his fathers. Like the others, this song was in praise of the Lord, and again it was the historical event that received attention: (1) the mighty acts of God on Israel's behalf (32:7-14); (2) the sin and ingratitude of Israel (vv. 15-18); (3) God's righteous judgment as the terrible consequence of sin (vv. 19-27); (4) the plight of Israel at the hands of her enemies (vv. 28-30); (5) God's judgment upon these enemies (vv. 31-42); and (6) a final note of assurance that God's mercy will accompany His people (v. 43).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Our Scripture is a song of Moses. At this time, Moses was an old man and already knew that he was not going to be able to lead the Children of Israel into the Land of Canaan. This song deals with the great themes of God's covenant with Israel, His mercies to them, their failures, the penalties which follow disobedience, and the final deliverance. Its primary theme is that Israel should always prove obedient and live.

B. One of the marks of greatness is to be able to transfer one's tasks to another with grace when the time comes. In this song which we study today, there is no bitterness on the part of Moses, only praises to God as he commits his work to Joshua, and the law to the priests. Joshua was charged with almost unbelievable responsibilities, but with the charge was the promise that the Lord would bring him and the people into the Land of Canaan.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Moses' days were coming to an end; he was now one hundred and twenty years old. The first forty of those years were spent in the court of the Pharaoh, an adopted child of the princess grown now to be an adult. The next forty years he lived in the back country of Midian, an exile from the court. And of course the last forty years he led the Israelites through their wanderings in the wilderness, headed for the Promised Land of Canaan.

B. Those last forty years were now over and he had spent some time on the east bank of the Jordan reviewing the law and giving valuable instructions to the Israelites, much of which we have studied this quarter. Now it was over; he had done the best he could to prepare them for their new adventure—the conquering of the land under the leadership of his successor, Joshua. Had he done enough? Were they ready to take on this task?

C. Well, the rest would be left up to the people and their God; he could do no more. The time had come for rejoicing, for praising the Lord for all He had done during these turbulent years. So it was that just before his final words to them and the majestic moment of his death Moses led the people in a great song of praise. This is what our lesson today is all about.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

yield to the demands of kidnappers, blackmailers, or terrorists, recognizing that once you start giving in to terrorists, you jeopardize every missionary the world over. The policy was in place and understood by all when Chet was seized that Monday morning.

During the tense 48-day interval, the terrorists set up several deadlines. Signs were often encouraging. There was even evidence that the kidnappers complied with the linguist's request and gave him a Spanish Bible, for in letters to Brenda he cited passages that strengthened him, in particular Psalms 46, 56, 121. (Chet possessed a remarkable talent for memorization; he had almost total recall. One of his last feats of memorization was committing the entire Book of 1 Peter to memory; it was a book he often referred to, especially the passages which dealt with suffering. Only God knew when Chet learned it how soon he would need the comfort it could give.)

In the guest house unanswered questions plagued everyone's minds: "Did Daddy really want to go with those men? When's he coming back to play?" the girls asked. Outside, there were threats, bomb scares, periods of silence, uncertainty.

Then the end came. One bullet shattered Chet's dream. He would not be able to love the Carijonas—to live with them, learn their language, analyze their grammar, develop a primer, teach them to read and write, nor ultimately translate the Bible into the language God had specifically given them.

Long ago Augustine wrote, 'Martyrs are holy men who fought or stood for truth, even unto death, so that the Word of God may be known and falsehood and fiction overcome. Such a sacrifice is offered to God alone, thus the martyr is received in heavenly honor. This means that God has rewarded the faith of the martyr with so much grace that death, which seems to be the enemy of life, becomes in reality an ally that helps man enter into life." Chet has entered into that joy.

"Thus the name of Chester A. Bitterman is joined to the select company of those who gladly laid down their lives for the gospel of Jesus Christ." Bernie May, the SIL's United States director, said, "The man who follows the Lord will invariably come under the shadow of the Cross. It is inescapable. But the promise of a harvest of righteousness is just as invariable. It is mandatory as we move from Gethsemane toward Calvary that we know who we are and where we stand when the torches light the garden at midnight."

Brothers and sisters, in conclusion I have only one question: Why are so many willing to lay down their lives for the cause of Christ when so many do not love God enough to **live** for Him?

IN MEMORIAM

(Continued from Page 9)

Mrs. Sadie Mann of Newport; and a brother, Mr. William T. Taylor of Gales Creek.

Carlton was a loving friend and a wonderful neighbor. He was a person no one spoke bad about. His favorite saying was from Proverbs 25:11: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

He suffered here on this earth from a brain tumor, but in Heaven he is not suffering. Our loss here is Heaven's gain.

May God bless his family in a very special way.

Mrs. Geneva Ward

ARE WE DOING ENOUGH FOR GOD?

(Continued from Page 5)

lives and let His will, not ours, be done. We can't get too close to God, but the closer we get the better we feel, and the easier it will be to fight temptation.

Jesus taught many lessons on how to live, and gives us important instructions to follow. If we follow His teachings we are promised the gift of God which is eternal life through Jesus Christ. One thing I think we are guilty of is not giving credit where credit is due. Sometimes we may go for days or weeks without giving thanks and praising God. We should thank Him for His many blessings. Many times we go to God in times of hardships. We feel that's when we need Him most, but we need God twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. We should go to Him, not asking all the time but go to Him in thanksgiving, thanking Him for what He has already done for us. We owe everything we have to God. We might say that we work for what we have, but God gave us the good health and strength and knowledge to do our work. In 2 Samuel it tells us that "God is my strength and power and He maketh my way perfect." We should always keep in mind what God has given us, and the price Jesus paid for us. That alone should make us stop and think; are we doing enough for Him?

A young boy in India ran into a burning hut and rescued his infant brother from certain death. When asked why he did it, his reply was simply, *"I heard my brother's cry!"* Do you?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Bobby Brown has a new address. It is Route 2, Box 335-A, Vanceboro, NC 28586; phone, 244-1577.

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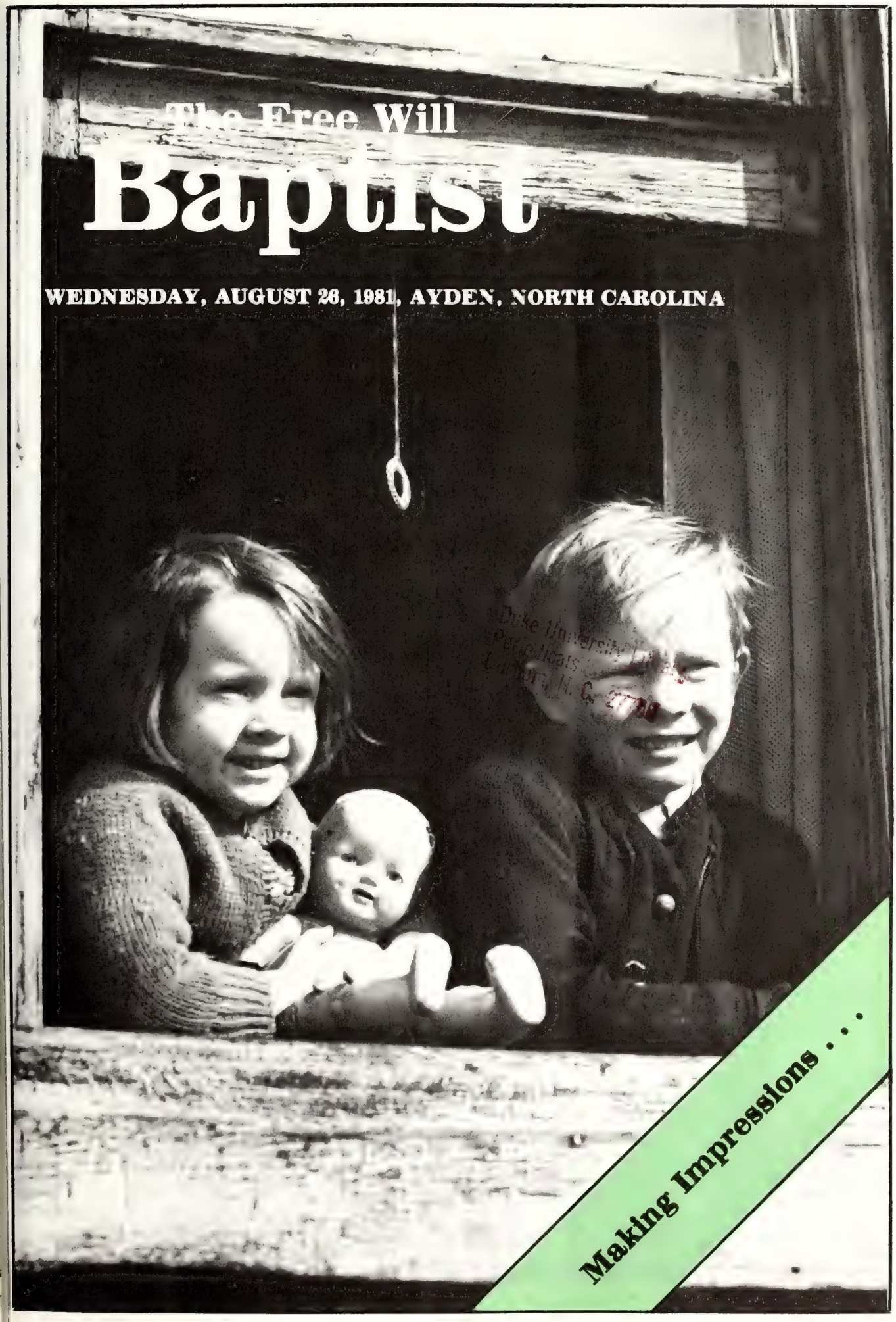
Here to Serve You!

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass church steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so that we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.



Five Locations to Serve You

Ayden New Bern Smithfield
Wilson Kinston


The Free Will
Baptist
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA
Making Impressions . . .

Ready for Imprinting . . .

Ethics always ran high at our house. In fact, "a lie was tantamount to treason!" Everyone told the truth—about everything but feelings. How often I have heard, "Never show your temper!", "Big girls don't cry!", "Nice girls don't think that way!" I was taught that cheating and stealing were wrong, but I wonder how many times I have really lied about what was happening on the inside.

One nine-year-old girl who was quite tall for her age hated her legs. She was sure no one liked her because her feet were big, her face was befreckled, and her hair was quite wavy. A lady in the girl's neighborhood staged a parade. It was rather grand as far as neighborhood parades go. All the boys and girls on the block were given costumes—all but the little girl, that is. She was left out of the woman's plans. Finally the lass mustered up enough courage to confront the woman—she wanted to know why she had not been included. After some explanation the woman consented to letting the young girl participate. But she didn't want her to be anyone pretty—like she needed to be—she had to be the fat lady; that was the only outfit left. What else could she expect?

It was hard for the girl to play out such a role, but she was willing. The determined nine-year-old walked down the street wearing layer upon layer of heavy padding; and the purple lipstick which accented her face matched her pink hair beautifully.

All those watching laughed, for she was "a sight for sore eyes!" The little girl laughed too; it was easier to hide her tears if she acted silly. Everyone commented about what a good sport she was; some said she was so good she should be an actress when she grew up—no one seemed to know she already was.

Dr. Karl Menninger said, "What's done to children they will do to society." If they hear nothing but criticism, they will condemn. Hostility brings on fighting; while ridicule makes one shy. But on the other hand, tolerance leads to patience, encouragement to confidence, praise to appreciation, fairness to justice, security to faith, and acceptance and friendship to love for the world.

People are fragile beings. We are like wet cement waiting to be molded and imprinted. Initially we all have the potential of being good, of being salt and light. We can speak up, live out, lift, correct, encourage, and change. But in order to do so, we must feel good about ourselves. I have often wondered about the image a little girl I know has of herself. She once spent all of her money to buy a box of gold stars. When she got home, she stuck everyone of them on a piece of paper that had her name at the top of it. Did she need encouragement? Was self-praise all the approval she ever received?

People are "wet cement." Make good impressions on them.

Cover Photo Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 96 Number 32

August 26, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

The Proper Care and Feeding of a Pastor

by Moishe Rosen

MOST church members don't know how to treat their pastor! If you want to be a considerate church member, there are some things you ought to know that your own minister will never tell you. Few pastors will put themselves in the precarious position of stating what benefits they feel they should receive from their ministry because they deem it improper to seek for themselves the remuneration and respect due their office. Nevertheless, proper care on the part of church members in certain sensitive areas will aid both the pastor and the church in fulfilling their God-given roles.

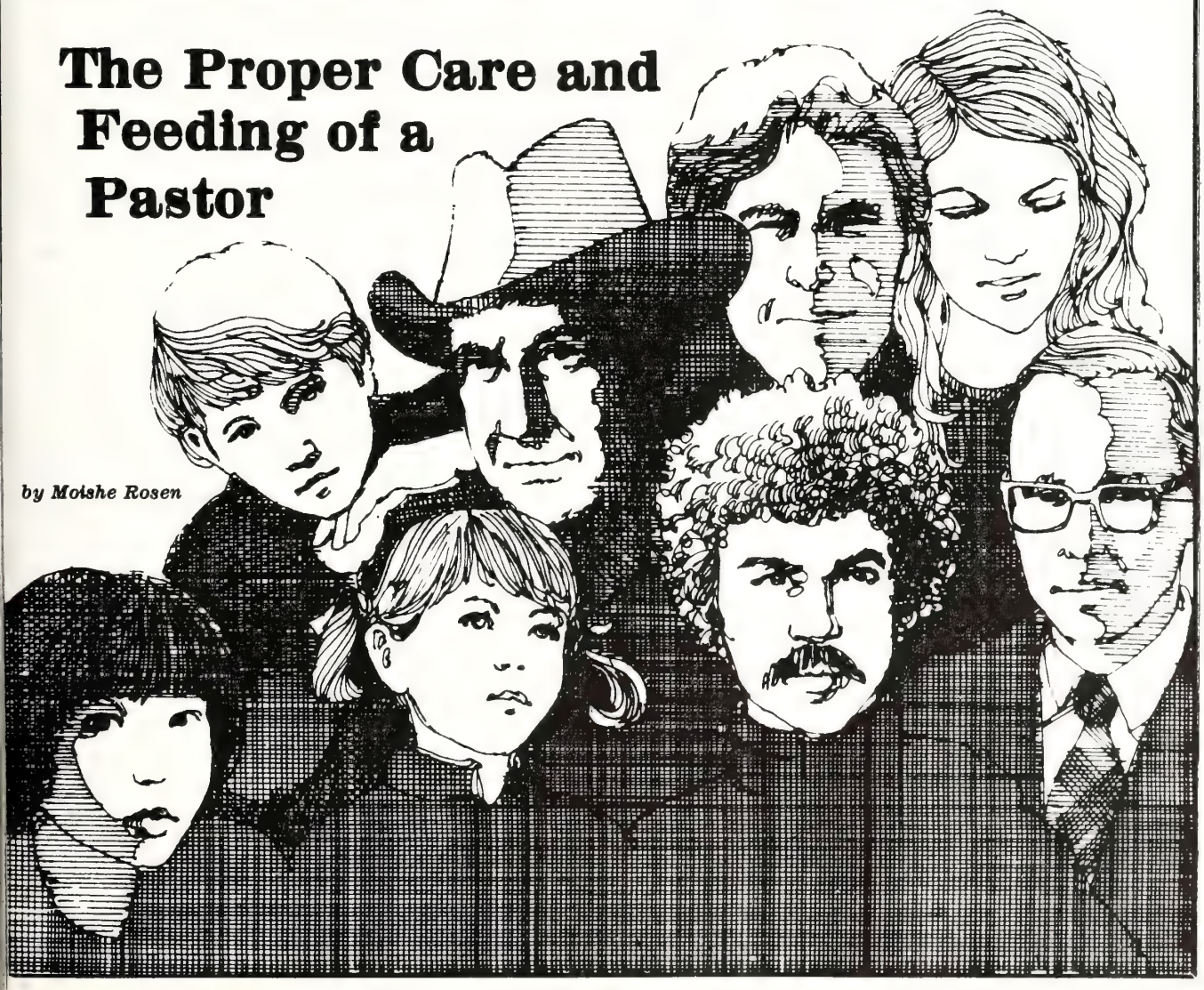
The Pastor and Gossip

One thing that hurts ministers the most is that some church members like to gossip. They take devilish delight in relating to their fellow church members those things about the pastor that represent his shortcomings. Pastors are human! Some may have bad habits or may make grammatical errors; others may quarrel with their mates, or devote too much time to personal affairs at the expense of their ministry to the congregation. You don't help your church to grow by detracting from your minister's credibility through faultfinding. If he has a character flaw that you regard as severe, go to him and speak with him respectfully, following the scriptural admonition to exhort an elder as a father (1 Timothy 5:1). Above all, pray for your pastor, that he might be able to live up to his own ideals.

The Pastor and His Time

Some church members want their pastor to join every civic group in town because they feel this is good for their church image in the community. As worthwhile as some of these groups may be, they take precious hours away from his duties in the church, from his prayer and study time and personal family time. This kind of community involvement should be left strictly

(Turn the Page)



to the discretion and wishes of the individual minister.

Many pressing responsibilities claim a pastor's time. He should spend between 20 to 40 hours a week in study, prayer and preparation for his messages. The younger a pastor is in the ministry, the longer it takes him to prepare his sermons. In addition, he must attend board meetings, committee meetings and Sunday school meetings and often must oversee youth work and children's work. In many instances the younger pastor finds himself shepherding a small or new congregation that is less than affluent and sometimes cannot even afford a paid custodian. In such a case the young pastor may find himself to be the chief fund raiser, custodian, secretary and errand boy. These are all areas where church members can help to shoulder the burden by typing letters, making phone calls, vacuuming the sanctuary and mowing the church lawn.

Salary or Living Allowance

A neglected fact of Scripture is that the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 5:17 wrote that a pastor deserves double pay. Check it out for yourself. The word "honor" as used in the text is related to the word "honorarium" or "fee." Some interpret this as referring to two different kinds of honor: remuneration and respect. However, the noun is used in the singular form, suggesting only one kind of "honor," and the context clearly speaks of wages. The Apostle Paul set an example of not taking pay for his ministry because he ministered for the most part among new and immature believers. Still, the Scripture teaches that "a workman is worthy of his hire." If the pastor *deserves* double pay, he should at least be accorded a salary that will allow for a comfortable standard of living.

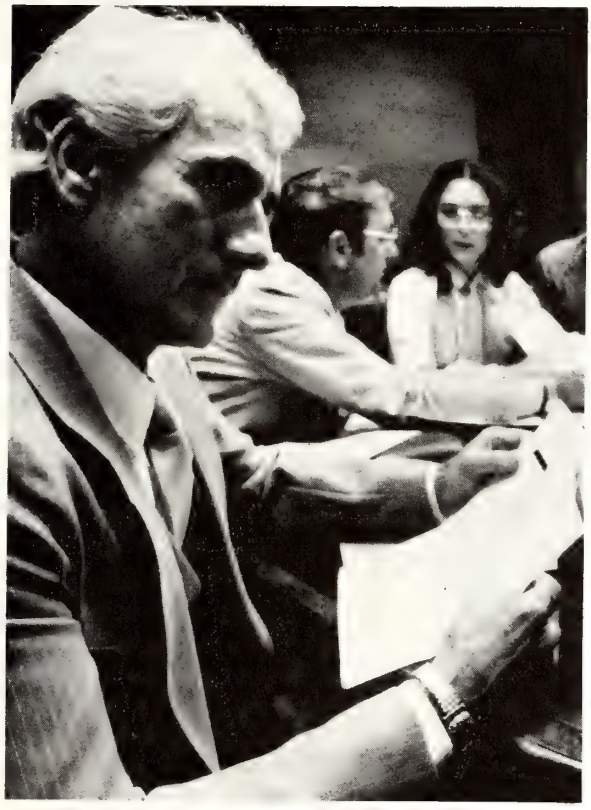
Many denominations in this country maintain set policies for the welfare of those who minister under their auspices. The specified benefits in such cases include minimum required salaries, hospitalization, annuities and educational allowances. Nevertheless there are many other groups and independent congregations that have no such set policies, and it is to them that this advice is directed.

A good rule of thumb for a pastor's living allowance is not in terms of money, but in terms of the median life-style of the congregation which he serves. If almost all of the people in the congregation live in apartments rather than in single-family homes, then the pastor and his family should be able to afford a nice apartment by community standards. If the church people generally own their homes, the pastor should be accorded a salary whereby he and his family may enjoy the same privilege. Oftentimes church property includes a parsonage. This is a practical and convenient arrangement because the house is usually close to the church and the housing benefit allows for a lower salary to be taken from the annual church budget. Nevertheless some pastors' families may not be comfortable with such a living arrangement. Self-esteem, privacy and being free to choose one's place of residence are all important factors to be considered. Besides this, the monetary benefit to the church may be offset by expenses of repair and maintenance for the parsonage. Another factor in favor of a pastor buying his own home is that under IRS rules a home owner enjoys substantial tax benefits in the form of deductions for all housing expenses. In any case, if the pastor were to feel more content in a home of his own choosing, the church might well consider renting the parsonage to someone in the community and adding the amount of the rental to the pastor's salary.

Your pastor has many other needs and expenses of which you may not be aware. They often support Christian causes with their own funds. In addition, because a bishop must be "given to hospitality" according to 1 Timothy 3:2, pastors must entertain much more than the average church member. That can be expensive.

Then, too, the successful pastor is busier than the average working man in his church and can't do some of the things for himself and his family that can be done by the ordinary layman. He may have to pay for things like shoveling the snow from his front walk in winter, or mowing his lawn in summer. Just about the time he gets ready to repair this appliance, or do that errand, he is likely to be interrupted by some church emergency. It is necessary that he be paid enough so that he can devote as much time as he needs to his flock and leave errands and chores to those whom he can pay.

Another minister's expense involves study materials. Did you know that your pastor will need to spend $300 to $600 a year



for books and periodicals just so he can do the work of informed preaching?

Other ministry-involved expenses include the cost of attending conferences and denominational conventions, and the all too often forgotten major expense of an automobile. The pastor's car is a business tool, and the pastor should be reimbursed for the use of his car in behalf of the church. Car expenses should be in the same category as office equipment used for church purposes.

Furthermore, most pastors find themselves in a social security trap. Under present law, everyone is covered by social security unless he files for an exemption stating that he is conscientiously opposed to any govenment help for himself or his family. If the pastor does not file the exemption form, he must pay the full social security tax of a self-employed individual out of his own pocket. If he does choose to file an exemption, he is not covered by social security. Then he is left to provide for his own retirement and hospitalization benefits unless he is fortunate enough to belong to a denomination which makes it a policy to provide for such needs.

Another expense for a young pastor might be an outstanding school debt. Few church members realize that a man who completes college and seminary often graduates owing a considerable amount of money. The debt was incurred in preparing himself for the ministry. His income should be sufficient to allow the repayment of that debt.

The pastor's income should also be adequate for him to afford an occasional private, restful vacation that involves travel and hotel bills. A visit with family or friends, while enjoyable, does not usually comprise a time of rest and privacy.

As a considerate church member, you should see to it that your pastor does not have to concern himself too much with money needs. Most pastors spend as many years in school as does a doctor or a lawyer, and they deserve a salary commensurate with their training. Though pastors are willing to humble themselves and settle for little in order to serve God, it is up to you to show your pastor that you understand the value of the position to which God has appointed them.

What Else You Can Do

If your church is the kind that cannot give your pastor a proper salary and uphold him financially the way that he deserves, there is one thing you can do that is always welcome. Sit down and write your pastor a note. Tell him how much you appreciate him and what he is doing. Be specific. If you were moved to action by a particular message, tell him which one. There's another way you can uphold him. Tell other members of the church specifically how and why you appreciate him so that they might look for the same qualities in him and gain from God what your pastor has to give them. If you know what you have received from him is of God and you are growing spiritually and are headed in a proper direction because of his ministry, why not tell others outside of the church too? Through your efforts the congregation may gain new members, and nothing pleases a pastor more than to see God's kingdom grow, especially if it's his own little flock.

A pastor's lot is often lonely and demanding, and even discouraging at times. Your pastor needs to know that you care and that you appreciate him. Treat your pastor well and you encourage him to do his very best for God. A right relationship between the pastor and the congregation will please God and make your church and its ministry a blessing to the entire community.

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NEWS & NOTES

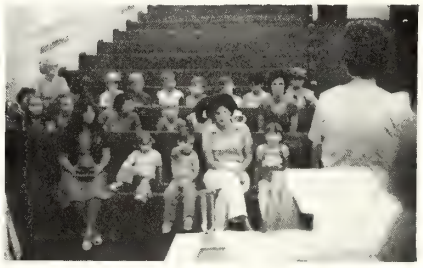
FIRST CHURCH OF KINSTON HAS SUCCESSFUL BIBLE SCHOOL



First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston, North Carolina, held its daily vacation Bible school July 27-31, from 6 until 9 each evening. The average attendance was 76 children and teachers.



The theme for the week was "Living for God." Each night's activities began in assembly with the pledges, singing of the theme song, devotion with the puppet friend, "Doozie," and prayer. Supper was served outside after which students began classes of music, crafts, and Bible study. Classes for the preschoolers through adults were provided.



The director, Mrs. Vickie Wade, states: "Our school was very special to us in many ways. We truly learned what it means to live for God. Many of our students experienced their first contact with the church and Jesus."

Commencement exercises were held on Sunday night. All students with perfect attendance were recognized and given a certificate. Each teacher and worker was recognized and presented with a certificate of appreciation and a plaque made by the crafts department.

The award for the best class throughout the week went to Primary No. 1. The pastor of the church is the Rev. C. H. Overman.

Piedmont Conference To Meet

The Thirty-seventh Annual Session of the Piedmont Conference will convene on Friday and Saturday, August 28, 29, 1981, at Cathedral Free Will Baptist Church, in Durham, North Carolina.

Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. All ministers are urged to be present. If anyone is planning to stay overnight and needs a place to stay, then the Rev. M. E. Cox will be happy in assisting to find a place. Call 596-1500 if anyone needs help in locating the church.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, August 29, 1981, at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina. The host pastor, the Rev. James Joyner, and the Union extend a cordial welcome to everyone. The Rev. Clyde Cox will preach the Union message.

Mount Zion Church Hosts Meetings

The Albemarle Union Meeting and League Convention will convene at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Roper, North Carolina, on August 29, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Dewitt Cleve

10:10—Welcome, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.

—Response, the Rev. Robert May

10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton

10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION
10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Press, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP
11:00—Hymn 8, "Amazing Grace"
11:20—Special Music, Ladies Quartet, Host Church
11:25—Message, Dr. W. D. Morris
—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION
7:30—Devotion, Mr. Mike Oliver
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Attention!
ECU Students

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship at East Carolina University will hold its organizational meeting Monday, August 31, 1981, 7 p.m. at First Free Will Baptist Church, 2600 Charles Street, Greenville. All Free Will Baptist students are urged to attend First Church when in Greenville on Sundays. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. and worship service is 11 a.m.

Pastors, Sunday school teachers, and parents, please send the name and address of each Free Will Baptist student at ECU to Harry Grubbs, 3000 Briarcliff Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834. If the Greenville address and telephone number of the student is known please include that as well.

Grimsley Auxiliary to
Have Fall Festival

The Woman's Auxiliary of Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, near Snow Hill, North Carolina, will have its annual Fall Festival on September 12, at the church fellowship building. The ladies will have baked and canned goods, crafts, and Christmas decorations. "White elephant" items and hot dogs will also be on sale. The hours of the festival are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Youth Services Planned
At Grimsley Church

Youth revival services have been scheduled at Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, near Snow Hill, North Carolina, August 28, 29, with Tommy Tripp as guest speaker.

The young people of the church will be in charge of the services on Sunday, August 30. The day's activities are in honor of the senior citizens of the church. A picnic lunch is planned afterwards.

The Rev. Donald Fader is pastor of Grimsley church.

Homecoming at
Sweet Gum Grove Church

Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 6, 1981. The day's services will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m., followed by morning worship and memorial services for deceased members at 11 a.m. The pastor, the Rev. David Hill, will be bringing the message. Lunch will be served at noon with a singspiration beginning at 2 p.m. featuring the Psalms Quartet.

All former pastors, members and friends are invited to worship and fellowship with Sweet Gum Grove church people during these services.

Revival Services in
Progress at Davis Church

Revival services are in progress at Davis Original Free Will Baptist Church, Davis, North Carolina, and will continue through Friday, August 28. Services begin nightly at 7:30, with the Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, as guest evangelist. Mr. Waters is being assisted by the Rev. Phillip Boykin, pastor of Davis church.

Everyone is welcomed to attend the remainder of the services.

Robert's Grove
Has Open House

Sunday, July 26, 1981, was a very special day at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina. An open house reception was held at the parsonage,

(Continued on Page 15)

News from

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS THROUGH JULY 15, 1981

NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES	
Dilda's Grove Auxiliary	$ 20.00
Celia Hart Garris Auxiliary	50.00
Goldsboro, First, Ladies Auxiliary	200.00
Greenville, Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	60.00
Gum Swamp Ladies Auxiliary	50.00
Holly Springs Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
Owens Chapel Ladies Auxiliary	50.00
Sherron Acres Ladies Auxiliary	189.00
Union Grove Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention	3,132.62
Total	$3,791.62

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Albemarle Union Meeting	$ 38.03
Dilda's Grove (Central)	20.00
Free Union	95.00
Hickory Chapel	51.73
Mount Tabor Sunday School	46.45
Sidney	129.59
Shiloh	11.20
Saint Paul	100.00
Union Chapel	25.87
Union Grove (Western)	20.00
Total	$ 537.87

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Catalpa	$ 100.00
Goldsboro, First	250.00
Haymount Mission	170.88
Hopewell	55.97
Lee's Chapel	178.08
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	68.79
Mount Olive Church	50.00
Palmer Memorial	200.26
Pleasant Grove	100.00
Powhatan	150.00
Shady Grove	300.00
Saint Mary's Grove	150.00
Saint Paul	75.00
Victory Mission	56.69
Wooten's Chapel	169.17
Total	$2,074.84

CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Aspen Grove Sunday School Class	$ 25.00
Ayden	250.00
Black Jack	1,354.80
Community	46.91
Daniels Chapel	500.00
Dilda's Grove	131.64
Edgewood	60.00
Elm Grove	210.00
Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	50.00
First, Greenville	370.00
First, Greenville Willing Workers	70.00
First, Rocky Mount	150.00
First, Tarboro	600.00
Free Union	500.00
Friendship	290.00
Grimsley	75.00
Gum Swamp	150.00
Hickory Grove	225.00
Hugo	375.00
Hull Road	400.00
King's Cross Roads	11.25
Layman's League	621.55
Lee's Chapel	178.08
Marlboro	200.00
Otter's Creek	281.83
Owens Chapel	200.00
Peace	55.00
Piney Grove	150.00
Reedy Branch	25.00
Reedy Branch Sunday School	151.04
Roanoke Rapids, First	12.44
Rocky Mount, First	150.00
Rose Hill Sunday School	100.00
Rose of Sharon	50.00
Saratoga	32.66
Saratoga Sunday School	42.00
Second Union	27.56
Tarboro, First	600.00
Williamston, First	61.24
Winterville	102.00
Total	$8,885.00

EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Arapahoe	$ 200.00
Bethlehem	100.00
Bridgeton	48.00
Cabin	25.00
Crab Point	50.00
Croatan	50.00
Deep Run	168.00
Fifth Union	50.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	25.00
Folkstone	300.00
Gray Branch	100.00
Jackson Heights	92.59
Juniper Chapel	45.32
Kinston, First	320.00
Macedonia	100.00
May's Chapel	100.00
Mount Zion, Beulaville	25.00
Mount Zion, Vandemere	75.00
Northeast	10.00
Oriental	30.00
Pearsall Chapel	85.00
Pilgrims Rest	70.00
Rooty Branch	75.00
Smith's New Home	150.00
Snow Hill	100.00
Sound View	50.00
St. Mary's	560.00
Third Eastern District Youth Fellowship	50.00
Third Union District Sunday School	25.00
Third Union District	173.20
Verona	150.00
Wardens Grove	24.49
Warsaw	50.00
Welcome Home	20.00
White Oak Grove	124.00
Total	$3,615.60

WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Elwood Lane	$ 223.06
First Union	245.00
Free Union	85.00
Flood's Chapel	10.00
Friendship	300.00
Fremont	293.85
Kenly	175.00
Little Rock	94.00
Marsh Swamp	155.79
Milbournie	262.50
Mount Zion, Spring Hope	200.00
New Sandy Hill	100.00
People's Chapel	30.00
Pine Level	400.00
Piney Grove	150.00
Pleasant Hill	200.00
Pleasant Grove	1,330.00
Second Union	66.25
Second Union Sunday School	100.00
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	875.00
Stancil's Chapel	293.00
St. Mary's	437.50
Spring Hill, Pikeville	500.00
Stoney Creek	25.00
Union Grove	500.00
Western District Youth Fellowship	25.00
Wilson, First	525.00
Total	$7,650.95

PEE DEE CONFERENCE	
Oak Grove	$ 30.10

Pee Dee Union Number 1	10.00
Total	$ 40.10

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Advance Mission	$ 11.55
Total	$ 11.55
GRAND TOTAL	$26,607.53

CRAGMONT CLUB MEMBERS

Marty Corbett
Iris Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Watson
Bryant Hines
The Rev. and Mrs. DeWayne Eakes
Ray Harrison Jr.
The Rev. and Mrs. Scott Sowers
Roy Rouse
Mrs. J. B. Starnes
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs
Dr. and Mrs. Burkette Raper
The Rev. Ray Wells
James Joyner
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Ackiss
Ed Gonzalez
Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Styron
Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wilson
Velma Morris
William C. Lovic
Ruth C. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. M. V. O'Brian
Becky Jo Sumner
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Lane
Dola Dudley
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Taylor
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Floyd Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Wooten
Gertrude Ballard
Helen T. Beaman
Sara M. Willoughby
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Futch
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Wood
Mr. and Mrs. Stearle Pittman
Miss Janet Smith
Mr. Dalton Smith
Mrs. Peggy Hobgood
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Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Tyndall
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Mr. Roscoe Eason
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Mr. Sam Hobgood
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Dora Pollard
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Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson Daughtry
Mr. and Mrs. William Whitley
Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Padgett
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Futrell
Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Hobgood
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Moore

The Coronary Club

by George Miller

With more and more preachers becoming victims of heart attacks, the Coronary Club is extending membership to those who only a few years ago were considered too young to be admitted. No doubt many preachers, young and old, are seeking membership but have lacked information on how to become members. These rules, if followed, will assure speedy action toward membership:

1. Never say, "No."
2. Insist on being liked by and try to please everyone.
3. Never delegate responsibility. If you must appoint a committee, do all the work yourself.
4. Never plan a day off, but if you are forced to take one, visit a preacher friend and spend the day talking about church problems, yours and his.
5. Never plan a night at home, but if it ever happens that you have no meetings or calls, be sure to accept an outside speaking engagement.
6. Take all the revivals your church will tolerate; then book more for your vacations. (Place all honorariums in a special account marked, "Heart Fund." This will help pay medical expenses when your coronary comes.)
7. Never allow enough time to drive comfortably to an appointment. (This will do two things: show people how busy you are; protect the reputation preachers have as fast drivers.)
8. Watch attendance records, especially the Sunday school's. If they lag a bit, decide it's time to move and always wonder what caused the people to dislike you.
9. When the doctor advises you to slow down, ignore him and brag about the fact that you would rather wear out than rust out.
10. Be sure to beat the record of the former pastor and try hard to beat your own each year.
11. Take the burden of your people to the Lord, but don't leave it there. Play God and pretend that the Kingdom depends on you.
12. Lead your church into a building program whether they need it or not; consider yourself better qualified than the architect and give it your personal supervision.
13. Consider it your civic duty to be a member of every club in town and become president of as many as you can.
14. If having done all these you don't succeed, accept the largest church you can find and work very tirelessly. You should then have a coronary in six months.

COMING EVENTS

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 2—Orientation, Registration Day at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive North Carolina

September 7—Labor Day

September 7—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and All Bible Bookstores Closed —Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

September 14—District Layman's League of Central Conference will meet at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, 8 p.m.

September 16, 17—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Churches, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina

September 16—State Convention Mission Rally Night

September 26—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

EVENING COURSE FOR ADULTS ON RELIGION IN AMERICA

The Department of Religion at Mount Olive College will offer an evening course for adults during the fall semester, focusing on the religious history of the American people. The course will emphasize the role of the Christian churches in American life from the colonial period to the present without ignoring the contributions of other religious groups.

One special feature of the course will be presentations by representatives of major denominations in eastern North Carolina, including Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Free Will Baptists, Pentecostal Holiness, Disciples, and others. The purpose of these presentations will be to recount the origin and development of each of these religious groups.

In order to provide a more comprehensive view of religion on the American scene and to enable members of the class to become aware of our common heritage, a popular textbook will be used. It is Winthrop Hudson's *Religion in America,* now in its third edition. Persons who enroll will have an opportunity to learn more about their own religious tradition as well as those of other Americans. Resources will be available in the College library dealing with various topics related to the course. Participants will be given a set of questions to be used with each unit of study. There are no required examinations unless the student desires regular college credit.

The class will meet on Tuesday at 7-9 p.m. with the first session on September 8 at 7 p.m. The cost will be $20, payable on the same date. Preenrollment for this course may be arranged by calling or writing to the Office of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. Telephone (919) 658-2502.

Teachers in Wayne County schools who complete the course (15 sessions) may receive three (3) units of credit toward recertification.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTERS AT MOC

One of the primary commitments of Mount Olive College is to provide educational opportunities for ministers and laymen that will enable them to fulfill their Christian calling more effectively.

In addition to the regular curriculum, the following courses of interest to ministers and church workers are being offered during the 1981 fall semester. Registration will be held at the first session of each class.

If additional information is needed, it may be obtained by writing or calling the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; telephones: office (919) 658-2502; home (919) 658-9363.

College Credit Courses

1. *Preaching and Pastoral Care*

A study of sermon preparation and delivery with emphasis on pastoral preaching. The first class meeting will be on September 14, 7 p.m. until 9:45 p.m., Room 115, Henderson Building. The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, instructor. (3 semester hours.)

2. *Psychology 201*

A general introduction to the study of human behavior and personality development. The first class meeting will be on Tuesday night, September 8, 6:30 p.m., Room 113, Henderson Building. (3 semester hours.)

3. *English Composition 101*

A basic study of English composition. The first class meeting will be on Wednesday night, September 9, 6:30 p.m., Room 111, Henderson Building. (3 semester hours.)

4. *Religion in America* (Adult Education

Historical presentations by representatives of the major denominations, reflecting the origin and development of each denomination.

The class will meet on Tuesday night of each week at 7 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 109, for one hour and fifty minutes with a ten-minute break. The course will begin on Tuesday, September 8 and end on December 15. The course will carry 3 units of credit in the Paul Palmer Institute.

Teachers in Wayne County Schools may receive three (3) units of credit toward renewal of their certificates if they complete the course.

The instructors will be Dr. Michael Pelt, Chairman of the Department of Religion, and Dr. Allan Smyth, Pastor of Mount Olive Presbyterian Church.

Paul Palmer Institute Courses

1. *Sermon Preparation and Delivery*

A study of the preparation and delivery of sermons. The first class meeting will be September 14, 7-8:15 p.m.,

(Continued on Page 15)

1981 Jamboree Held in Virginia





A jamboree is thousands of Scouts from many nations camping together in the cause of world friendship. Such friendships and the desire to know one another overcome barriers of language and differences in custom, race, and religion, making Scouting relevant to world brotherhood.

The theme of the tenth national Scout jamboree held July 29—August 5, 1981, was "Scouting's Reunion with History." The event was held at Fort A. P. Hill, which is located near Fredericksburg, Virginia. More than 30,000 Scouts, adult leaders, and supporting staff members attended this once-in-a-lifetime happening. Although the occasion provided a showcase of Scouting today for both participants and visitors alike, the main emphasis was to offer boys an opportunity to learn leadership and program ideas which they can apply to their local Scouting programs and daily lives.

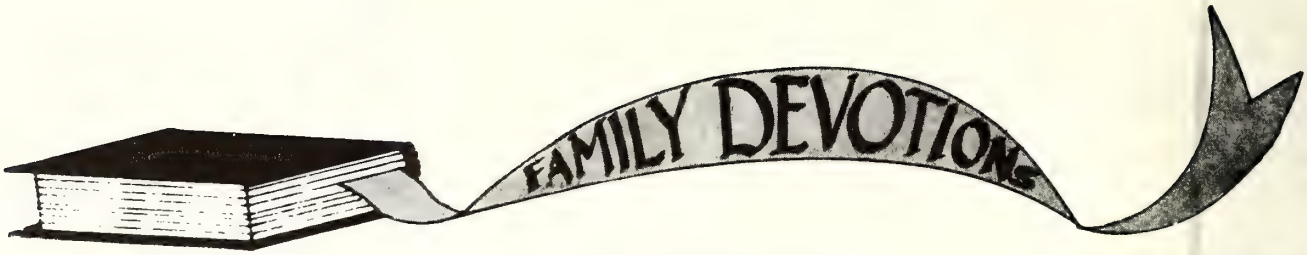
Scouting began in England in 1907 under the leadership of Lord Baden-Powell. From its beginning, the Scout idea spread around the globe until it is now the largest and most influential youth movement in the free world, with a membership totaling more than 15 million.

Although there are some differences in program administration, the whole movement adheres to these fundamental principles:

- Duty to God and respect for individual beliefs
- Loyalty to one's country and respect for its laws
- Strength of world friendship and Scouting brotherhood
- Service to others—community development
- Universal regard for Scout Promise and Law as a life guide
- Voluntary membership
- Service by volunteer leaders

(Continued on Page 15)





SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

Scripture Reading—Matthew 15:7-9

GANDHI WAS EMINENTLY RIGHT

Mahatma Gandhi, the man who led India to independence, once received a group of Christian ministers at 6:30 o'clock in the morning. After eating a breakfast of goat's milk in which sweet lime leaves had been boiled, they went up on the roof for a private conference. Mr. Gandhi was dressed in a loincloth and carried a dollar watch.

The ministers asked the mahatma about conversion, and he replied, "I believe in Christian conversion if it is genuine. On the other hand there is nothing worse than being something on the *outside* that you are not on the *inside*. If a man has really found God through discovering Jesus Christ, then he must be baptized and show the world that he is a follower of Jesus, or else he will be a living lie!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How severely did Jesus denounce the deadly, soul-shriveling sin of hypocrisy: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess" (Matthew 23:25).

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

Scripture Reading—Job 21:11-15

THE TYPICAL AMERICAN

A UPI survey thus defined the typical American: "He is a twenty-seven-year-old who does not read one book a year. He is materialistic, satisfied with small pleasure, and bored with theological disputations. Although he may attend church twenty-seven times a year, he is not interested in the supernatural. He is not concerned with Heaven or Hell and has no interest whatever in immortality. His principal interests are football, hunting, fishing and car-tinkering."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth (Colossians 3:2).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 53:1-12

NOT AN AFTERTHOUGHT

Said Dr. William Culbertson, "Calvary was not God's afterthought. It was His forethought. Calvary was not optional in God's plan. It was obligatory: 'Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?' " (Luke 24:26).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Ye were . . . redeemed . . . with the precious blood of Christ . . . Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world (1 Peter 1:18, 19).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Psalm 24:1-10

LOOK AFTER YOUR PEANUTS

Distressed and discouraged because of the sin, sorrow and suffering in our morally and spiritually sick world, Dr. George Washington Carver went into his garden to pray.

As he prayed, God seemed to address to him a question which He asked His ancient, distraught servant Job, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding" (Job 38:4). "George," the divine command seemed to say, "you look after the peanuts, and I'll look after the world."

With evil seemingly triumphant—"truth forever on the scaffold, wrong forever on the throne,"—let God's children encourage themselves in the fact that God is still on the throne, and that "He doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand" (Daniel 4:35).

PRAYER THOUGHT

This is My Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget;
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—John 3:1-7

VERBAL DYNAMITE

The words and writings of Erasmus led to the *Renaissance.*

The words and writings of Nikolai Lenin, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, led to *revolution.*

The imperishable Word of God leads to *regeneration:* "Being born again . . . by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever" (1 Peter 1:23).

We cannot overestimate the far-reaching influence of a good book, nor the mind-warping influence of a bad one!

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *they that are in the flesh*

cannot please God (Romans 8:8).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 24:11, 12

FACING DEATH
WITH AN AUDIENCE

Two brothers spent four frightful hours clinging to their overturned boat, trying to get help from amused spectators on the shore.

After their rescue one of them said, "We got fed up seeing the people on the shore just watching us through their binoculars and waving at us while we were screaming for help. A boat went by, but the guy just smiled and waved at us. We never saw him again. If it hadn't been for my brother who kept holding onto me, I would not be here to relate the ordeal. It sure makes you wonder about people!"

It certainly does!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Is there a more enfeebling and reprehensible evil among God's children today than the sin of do-nothingism?

God's curse is upon this spiritually-dwarfing sin: "Curse ye Meroz . . . curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to help of the Lord . . . against the mighty" (Judges 5:23).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1:1-31

"MARVELLOUS ARE
THY WORKS!"

Wrote Natalie Barber, "When I was a student at the University of Vermont, I was convinced that the universe ran according to scientific rules and that the idea of a loving God was a myth.

"In embryology lab we were studying the growth of the chick. Each day our instructor opened one of the twenty-one fertilized eggs in the incubator and carefully removed the living embryo so we could observe the progress of its growth.

" 'The heart won't start beating,' our instructor explained, 'until other parts of the circulatory system are ready—about the forty-fourth hour.'

"When I returned to study the tiny heart of a forty-four-hour chick, the heart had grown. Then it began contracting spasmodically in tiny, fitful tremors. As I watched, the tremors grew stronger, more regular. The heart was beating, pushing blood through the tiny embryo in a movement that would nourish the chick throughout its life.

"I was spellbound by what I had seen take place before my eyes! I thought of the perfect timing. Then at that moment, a new life began for me. I felt the guiding hand of God upon His universe. This was no scientific machine I had been observing. This was a living act performed by the Creator who cared."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well (Psalm 139:14).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NEWS FROM THE EASTERN FRONT

Saturday, September 19, is an important day for all the youth of the Eastern District. It's our Fall Convention which will be held at Gray Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Deep Run, North Carolina. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the convention starting at 10 a.m. Each youth group is asked to send representatives and a $5 registration fee per church.

We are hoping to have Shannon Barnard and her parents with us. They are now preparing to leave for the Philippines in 1982. Shannon will be speaking to the AFC members. There will also be a special program for the YFA members present.

There will be a skit, music and something special for all the youth present. Won't you make a special effort to have your youth group represented?

Deborah King
Eastern District Youth

News from

HOME MISSIONS

by Taylor Hill



Taylor Hill

Greetings in the name of Christ. I hope that you all are not growing impatient with us; we are carrying on and are doing a good job. The "ole sick bug" has just slowed us down a little bit.

We are keeping up with things, but we just haven't been able to keep everything before you.

State Convention time is at hand and we have just been asked to take the Mission Program at the Mission Rally again this year. We are pushed up right now and the Rev. Ray Wells and the Kennedys will be planning and doing most everything. We are indeed fortunate to have them; I don't know what we could have done without them. Pray for them and me, and we will be praying for you.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 6

IN THE BEGINNING

Lesson Text: Genesis 1:1-3, 6, 14, 15, 20, 26, 27, 31; 2:1-3
Memory Verse: Genesis 1:31

I. INTRODUCTION

As a child grows older he looks beyond himself more and more. So his question becomes bigger. Where did everything come from?

For centuries the simple and accurate answer has been available in God's Word. But always there are some who do not want to acknowledge God (Romans 1:28). Such people search for ways to evade the plain truth of Scripture. Current evasions are seen in multiple myths of evolution.

Like the stork myth, evolutionary myths have two things wrong with them. First, they are not true. Second, they do not answer the question. If all living things evolved from a single cell, where did that cell come from? If all that happens is the result of natural forces, where did the natural forces come from? If they are inherent in matter, where did the matter come from? The question of origin is still with us.

In the world about us, in fact in all the universe and within ourselves, we see evidence of a plan, a design. It is in the intricate working of our glands and organs and nerves and muscles, in the structure of an atom or a solar system. Where did the design come from? All our experience indicates that a plan comes from an intelligent planner.

Everywhere we see motion, from the slow growing of a plant to the swift turning of the earth. All our experience teaches us that it takes power to put things in motion. Motion comes from power.

In the world and in ourselves is life. Science knows no way by which material that is not living comes to life. Life comes from life. Thus all we see confirms the record of the Bible. Everything comes from God, who is intelligent, powerful, and alive.

Where did God come from? He alone had no origin. He has always existed. Nothing comes from nothing. The very fact that things exist proves that something or someone always existed. And the nature of the things we see proves that the Eternal had to have intelligence, power, and life, in order to produce an orderly universe. That is God, the Creator. **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Scientists have tried in many varied ways to explain the origin of the universe. W. M. Smart, Regius Professor of Astronomy in the University of Glasgow, in his authoritative work, *The Origin of the Earth,* enumerates the following different theories, held today with equal conviction by astronomers and physicists: the Tidal Theory, the Collision Theory, the Binary Star Hypothesis, the Fission Theory, the Nebular-cloud Theory, the Electromagnetic Theory, and the Nova Theory. Then he concludes that "all the theories proposed up to date as to the mechanism by which the Solar System has come into being failed to carry conviction." And in the same paragraph, he makes the interesting confession: "We feel some assurance in asserting that the Solar System is derived from a single activity on a great scale in the distant past."

B. Dr. Henry M. Morris, head of the Institute for Creationism, has written in his book, *Studies in the Bible and Science,* "It is certain that the universe as we know it must have had a definite beginning. The older philosophies of the eternity of matter have been set aside by modern physics and astronomy. Jeans compares the universe to a clock that is running down." Our Scripture lesson for today clearly states that the earth was created by God. To the Christian believer, it takes more faith to believe these theories that have been developed by man than it does to believe the Bible.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. We have the promise of some great lessons during this quarter, lessons taken from a number of outstanding passages in the Bible. They will give us deep insight into God and His marvelous ways, provide us with the opportunity to survey some of the great, well-known parts of the Bible, and help us relate to some of the central themes of the written Word.

B. The selection of any list of great passages is a subjective matter; that is, each student may have his own choice of passages, and what one considers great may be thought of by others as less important. It is quite possible, however, that we will all agree that the passages used in these lessons are indeed among the great ones.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

1981 Jamboree

(Continued from Page 11)



Independence from political influence and control
Unique program for training youth in responsible citizenship, physical and mental development, and character guidance through use of patrol system, group activity, recognition through awards, and learning by doing.
Outdoor program orientation

Many Scouts from North Carolina attended the jamboree. Members of Troop 388 were among them. Troop 388 is sponsored by Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina.



News and Notes

(Continued from Page 7)

honoring their pastor, the Rev. and Mrs. Jerry A. Allen, and children, Jerry Jr. and Jamie. He assumed the duties as pastor of the church on July 1.

The guests were greeted at the door, introduced to the receiving line, and then directed through the newly renovated parsonage.

They were then invited over to the fellowship hall where refreshments were being served.

Approximately one hundred thirty-five guests attended the reception.

Homecoming and Revival At Highland Pines Church

On Sunday, August 30, Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, will enjoy homecoming. Dinner will be served in the fellowship building after the morning worship service. Following the dinner there will be special singing by the Heavenbound from Kinston, North Carolina.

Revival services will begin on Monday night, August 31, and will continue through September 4. There will be special singing each night. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Jack Lassiter. Services will begin nightly at 7. The pastor, the Rev. McDonal Bennett, and congregation prayerfully invite everyone to attend.

Mount Olive College

(Continued from Page 10)

Henderson Building, and will end November 2. The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Instructor. (3 units of credit.)

2. *Christian Beliefs*

A survey of basic Christian beliefs including those about God, man, sin, salvation, and the church. The first class meeting will be September 14, 8:30-9:45 p.m., Henderson Building, and will end November 2. Mr. Calvin Mercer, Instructor. (3 units of credit.)

Cost

TUITION (Per Semester Hour) . . . $65

NOTE: Ministers and church workers who enroll in courses to further their services may apply for scholarships which cover costs except for $20 per course.

Notices

Plans should be made now to attend the Pastors and Superintendents' Banquet, Friday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m., at the downtown campus of Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. For more information, read "The Free Will Baptist" for future announcements.

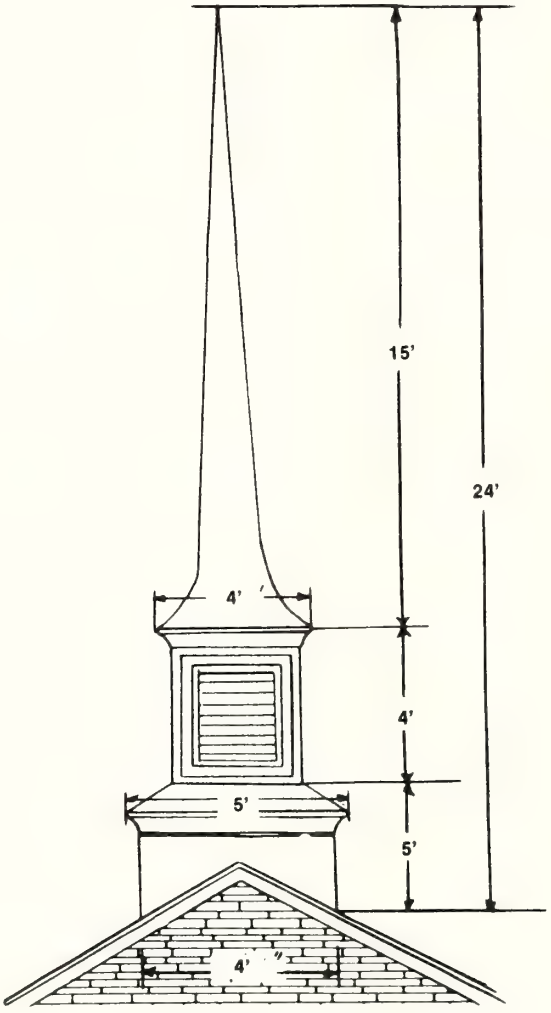
Joey Crumpler

If you have not received your State Convention Report Blanks, please let me know. You may call me at 735-3916 (office) or 734-0714 (home).

All report letters should be mailed prior to August 31, 1981.

Gary M. Bailey, *Secretary*
North Carolina State Convention
Of Churches

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The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

Ramblings from a Sowers Mind

On the Start of School . . .

A father once had two sons. One of the boys took his education in cash, for he longed to attend "wild-oats college"—life was free and easy there. The lad became friends with those who had not yet learned that money cannot buy happiness, and he lived the kind of life bestsellers are made up of—non-Christian bestsellers, that is.

His brother was the epitome of an all-American youth. He elected to seek a degree in accounting and developed his potentials while taking a "cap-and-gown" tour. Graduation smiled upon him and he ventured out to face life with a diploma boasting a *magna cum laude* seal. Life was good to him: he had money at 16 percent, paid all bills promptly, and supported his school budget.

Meanwhile, the prodigal brother reaped his harvest. It was not until he reached the bottom of the barrel that he realized his folly.

Needless to say, college is not for everyone. But we should all be the best we can be. We should develop our potentials, and institutions of higher learning (and all schools, for that matter) help one to do so. As a new school year begins, I encourage students, teachers, and parents too, to be all you can be. And don't wait 'til the last minute, for procrastination will kill you—or at least help you get bad grades! The beginning does count!

On a Price Increase . . .

All of us are all too familiar with inflation. We face higher prices everywhere we go. The printing industry is not exempt, for paper, film, plate, and ink costs have all risen, as has postage. As a result, it is imperative that subscription rates to *The Free Will Baptist* be increased. This increase will allow us to continue to print four times a month and use more color; it will allow us to maintain desired quality as well as continue to make improvements.

The new rates will go into effect on October 1, 1981. They are as follows: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; and four years, $31.20 (these figures include sales tax for North Carolina residents). One may think these rates high. In comparison to other church publications, they are low. Many *monthly* church papers and magazines now cost $7-12 a year.

Renew your subscription during September and enjoy current rates.

On a Recent Board Decision . . .

At their last meeting, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. determined to make me Editor of Literature. This is a decision that humbles me greatly and a job I could not undertake without the able assistance of my associates at the Press, especially my colleagues in the Editorial Department—Verna H. McLawhorn, Sara T. Branch, Warren Bezanson (Dr. Ben), and Jerry Goff.

I appreciate your encouragement in the past and ask your continued support in the days ahead, for my cause is noble and my intentions are good.

Janie

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 96 Number 33

September 2, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Faith, Ammunition and Freeze-dried Food

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

ON the wall of my local Sloppy Joe's where I sometimes go for a noontime sandwich, there used to hang this bit of supposed wry humor: "If you can keep your head while all about are losing theirs, you just don't know how serious the situation is." Purveyors of doomsday panic, who apparently have discovered a lucrative market among readers of evangelical magazines, would like us to believe this modified version: "If you can keep your faith while all about are losing theirs, you don't know how bad things are."

According to certain fair-weather believers, faith is okay when such really important issues as income or survival are not at stake; but if your real-life, concrete situations start to deteriorate, you'd best opt for the highest interest rate or its equivalent.

I know it doesn't sound very pious when you say it straight out like that, but it's an easy impression to get from the way choices are made, even by Christians. We want a risk-free faith; that's why we signed up for the heavenly insurance policy that gives us a piece of the Rock of Ages.

The notion seems to be that there are two worlds: the "real" world where we live as citizens, and the "make-believe" world where we live as Christians. In a crunch, the "real" world is the one that usually takes priority.

That misdirected priority is nowhere more evident than in the survivalist mood abroad in the land, becoming big enough to be noticed by the news media. Writing in the *New York Times,* Flora Lewis says, "There are now thousands of people preparing doomsday hideaways and learning to shoot so they won't have to share with neighbors." She cites some research done by my friend and Associated Press correspondent, Peter Arnett, who in a dozen states found people "spending huge sums to pile up caches of freeze-dried food, medicine and ammunition against the day of dog-eat-dog rule in the United States."

One woman in Georgia told Arnett, "We are not just concerned about nuclear war. What if we have a serious tornado? We will still need to protect ourselves from others."

We are not told about the religious faith of these survivalists. My guess is that many of them are regular churchgoers. Probably professed Bible-believers, although they seem to have no confidence in God's department of defense. Where God is weak, they propose to be strong.

It all sounds so much like the Israelites who *believed* in God, but *trusted* in horses and chariots. Why is it that in situations where it can be measured in tangible terms, faith is so easily discardable?

Sunday Christians might do well to turn on Monday morning to 1 John 3:17ff: "If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?" (NIV). The next verse also relates: "My children, love must not be a matter of words or talk; it must be genuine and show itself in action" (NEB). And the next: "This then is how we know that we belong to the truth" (NIV).

This then is how we know!

There are so many *this thens* waiting for acts of testimony, acts which sometimes may be at risk, acts that find and are found by the "test" in testimony.

It doesn't say that when we're doing fine, thank you—no community or world problems, no

(Turn the Page)

heartache, no inflation, no tornadoes or nuclear threat, no hungry people pounding at the door or facing us on the television screen—*this then* is how we know that we belong to the truth. No such qualifiers are given.

But in spite of that idealism about the meek, doesn't life really belong to the strong, the provident, the foresighted, the full-pantried, the well-armed? Apparently not for very long, if one man's experience means anything. The Lord said to him, "This night thy soul shall be required of thee" (Luke 12:20).

"If anyone has . . . and sees his brother in need but has no pity . . . ." Which brings us to the last desperate defense of the Christian cowering behind barricades: "But he's not my brother!" You'd best accept the judgment of a higher court regarding that. Jesus said, "Whoever does the will of God is my brother" (Matthew 12:50). As the hymn puts it, "Who loves my Father as a son is surely kin to me."

Times are coming—you can count on it—when it will be easy to put first things second, when being Christian in action will seem the most illogical, irrelevant response you can make as the so-called real world around you starts to crumble.

When that happens, those who belong to the truth will keep the faith. They are the ones who not only know how bad things are; they also know how completely dependable God is.

It is no casual promise Jesus makes: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

"Those are the words of a gentleman," David Livingstone said, "given on His sacred honor."—Stan Mooneyham

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (July, 1981).

"THE BEGINNING AND THE END"

Part One

by Graham Faucette

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last" (Revelation 22:13).

CHRIST IS THE A AND THE Z OF THIS PHYSICAL UNIVERSE

We know that Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and Omega is the last. Anyone that knows their ABC's knows that Christ is the A and the Z of our alphabet. By Christ were all things made that were made and without Him was nothing made. He made this whole world and everything that is in it. He made the very spot where you live and He knew that you were going to be living there.

He made the Garden of Eden as well as closing it. It was He that put Adam and Eve there as well as running them out. He made the fig tree as well as cursing it. He made the Sea of Galilee as well as calming the storm there. He made Mary as well as choosing her for His mother. He made Bethlehem as well as being born there. He made Jerusalem as well as dying there. He made the tomb as well as lying there. He made the Mount of Olives as well as ascending into Heaven from there. He made the clouds that He left in and in which He is coming back one day.

He is the beginning and the end; no wonder He could unstop deaf ears for He was the One that made the ear in the beginning. No wonder He could heal the withered arm, He was the One that made it in the beginning. No wonder He could give life to the dead, because He is the life.

He made out of nothing the material that He used to form this world with. It was Christ that started the world spinning on its course the first time. It was Christ that drove the first pivot and hung to the throne the first stars. When we stand and look into the sky we can see things mightier than any man has ever invented. As we gaze into the heavens, we can almost hear the Words of Christ saying, "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last."

It's very exciting to see a ship launched, to see all the people and hear all the noise, to hear the splashing of the water, to see all the flags flying, to hear the bands playing. But I believe that it would have been far more exciting to have seen Christ when He launched this world, with its furnaces of volcanoes, the masts of the mountains and the bands of Heaven playing, "How Great Thou Art."

The same hand that put this great universe together will also pull it down in the near future. The furnaces already on fire in the heart of the earth will burst their bounds. The mountains will kindle. The great forests will burn. The metals will melt and run as liquid. The oceans will evaporate. And in that day the earth from all sides will shoot out flames of fire.

All the world will know who set the world on fire. Christ will be standing in the midst of the roaring flames, proclaiming, "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last."

Yes, Jesus is the beginning and the end.

News from

Foreign Missions

by the Rev. E. M. Lall, D.D.

EVANGELIZATION IN JUNE 1981

The Free Will Baptist Church of India believes that among all the tragic needs of human beings none is greater than their alienation from their Creator and the terrible reality of eternal death of those who refuse to repent and believe. We would be guilty if we do not commit ourselves with urgency to the task of evangelization. The glorious day when the Lord comes to take us to our eternal home will fall only when this task is over.

In the world population of 4,600,000,000, two-thirds of the people have had no chance to receive Christ. In North India, the part of our work and concentration, one believer stands for 1,200 non-believers. In this context as in accordance with the commandment of the Lord Jesus Christ, every church should be a witnessing church and every believer should be a witnessing believer.

In keeping with this spirit and inspiration we have assigned one whole month in a year for the task of evangelization ever since we constituted as Free Will Baptists in 1975. Accordingly, 21 of us in four groups of five each, along with the writer as director of the teams, campaigned through the Kumaon Hills at the foot of the Himalayas, about 7,000 feet above sea level. We covered a distance of 250 to 300 miles with baggage containing New Testaments and religious literature. It was indeed interesting and inspiring.

Unlike the past, opposition was not so severe this year except in a couple of places, though being accustomed we were ready to bear it.

Studying the whole situation, we felt that where there were more literate people they received us and gave us an opportunity to speak and where there were more illiterate people they first rebuked us rather than hearing us. Our resisted but humble efforts finally made them to hear us.

In the 1981 census of our country, reported to be 683,810,051, there are 23 million more males than females. Therefore, the sex ratio is 935 females per 1,000 males! There were 156,440,275 literates in 1971 and the number in 1981 increased to 237,991,932. Among the 330 million females, there are 80 million literates who are not hostile to learning about other religions. The Christians among the total population of 683,810,051, excluding the 12 million Roman Catholics, are 20 million, a little less than 3%. Half of them live in extreme rural areas.

The figure for literate people in our country comprises of all those who can read and write or just scribble including among them 100 million children in schools.We feel that as the rate of literacy grows the opposition to gospel preaching will come down.

In our country there are 16,000 ethno-cultural linguistic groups, 25 major religions and 300 Christian denominations and sectarian groups. Preaching, therefore, needs its own tact and style.

Nevertheless, our mission of evangelism was a grand success, much more than we could expect. It was soothing to the unreached souls to learn that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only source of salvation to mankind.

We went to 400 towns and villages, preached to 60,000 souls, gave 4,000 New Testaments and other literature of salvation. While 273 people were baptized, the hearts of thousands were provoked and message of salvation and eternal life was infused in them. We preached to rural Christians, too, feeling that their heart should also be roused to the time and that they may experience the Lord in their life.

All this was possible through the great insight of our director-treasurer, the Rev. Joseph H. Ingram, who supported financially and kept on praying for the movement. In this task the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina were largely share-holders through their cooperation and prayers. We feel sure that they will be richly rewarded. We are grateful to God for this wonderful opportunity and praise Him for all that we were able to do.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

LOVING is always giving
LOVING is always sacrificing
LOVING is bearing crosses if need be

If we care and we care enough, we will make whatever sacrifices that are necessary to see that all is well in the family of God.



Minister Works with H'mong Refugees

by Bob Harber

Following is a report by the Rev. Bob Harber, Route 2, Fremont, of a recent evangelistic campaign held among Lao refugees in Southern California. Mr. Harber is pastor of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Pinkney, North Carolina.

The Lord gave my wife and me the opportunity of having a week's evangelistic meeting (July 26—August 2, 1981) with the Lao Evangelical Church, which meets in the building of the First General Baptist Church of Santa Ana, California. The Lao Evangelical Church is composed of H'mong refugees from Laos, with the Rev. Wangyi Her, one of the first Christian converts of the H'mong people, as pastor.

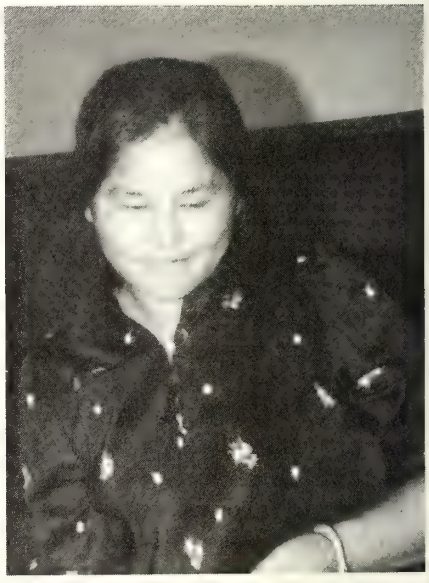
The H'mong people are the Highland Tribal people of Laos. They worked with the American CIA during the war in Laos; and as a result, the Communists of Laos seek to completely destroy them. The H'mong have not had a written language very long. Therefore, most of the older people neither read nor write. They first heard the gospel in the early 1940s. Even now, they have only the New Testament in their native language. Their early religious background is a mixture of Hinduism; Buddhism; animal, ancestor, and spirit worship. They are an intelligent, industrious, loving, happy people who have known much heartache and suffering. They respond readily to the gospel message.

This week with the Lao Evangelical Church was a high-point in our Christian experience—with over 110 of the H'mong people coming forward for prayer, with at least 15 first-time commitments (some of whom had never heard the gospel in their language before). The crowds of H'mong people who attended increased with each meeting until the building was completely full for the last service. There were singing and preaching, and an invitation was extended nightly. The services were followed by a question-and-answer session that lasted until 10:30 each evening, with those in attendance wanting more. (People would begin arriving at 6:30 each evening.) The question-and-answer sessions were both a challenge and a blessing, as the questions came spontaneously from the people's desire to know.

My wife and some of the people from the First General Baptist Church (Tom White, Coraldean White, Seth Harrellson) had special activities for the children, ages 2 through 12, in the educational building. The children numbered from 49-70 each evening.

We were honored by the Lao Evangelical Church by being made honorary members of their group, the only people so honored by them, and were invited to return for another meeting in the summer of 1982.

These great results and spiritual blessings were made possible through the working of the Holy Spirit as we ministered the Word through







our faithful interpreter and personal friend, the Rev. Mouachou Mouanoutoua, president of the Lao Evangelical Church in America.

A special thanks goes to the members of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, who allowed us to share our ministry with the H'mong people of Southern California, and to all those who were prayer partners in this venture of faith. But "to God be the glory! Great things He has done!"

COMING EVENTS

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 7—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

September 14—District Layman's League of Central Conference will meet at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, 8 p.m.

September 16, 17—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Churches, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina

September 16—State Convention Mission Rally Night

September 26—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

Cragmont Superball Golf Tournament

In one of last month's issues of *The Free Will Baptist* it was announced that the second annual Cragmont Superball Golf Tournament would again be held at the Happy Valley Golf Club near Wilson. For those of you who missed the article the first time—the tournament will be played on Friday, October 2, with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. The four-person-team concept will be used again this year, but the teams will be grouped in a little different fashion than last year. For this year's tournament, you can be assured of one person that you have on your team simply by entering the tournament and entering your partner with you. You and your partner will be paired with another player and his partner and the four of you will comprise a team.

I also stated that women are not only welcome to play but are indeed encouraged to participate. It is my understanding that at present four or five ladies have already stated their intentions to play this year as have several men. So all you golfers and duffers send in your registration fee of $25 per player to the address below. Remember $25 includes greens fee, golf cart and all the day's festivities. If you do not have a partner just register by yourself—we'll pair you up ourselves. Trophies and prizes will be awarded to winners and any good Free Will Baptist get-together is not complete without food. So we have planned what promises to be a delicious pig pickin' after the tournament.

Come on and enjoy the fellowship and fun that all of last year's participants enjoyed. Just complete the registration form below and mail it along with $25 per player to:

Rick Watson
Route 2, Box 607
Wilson, NC 27893
Phone: 237-8472
243-6114

REGISTRATION FOR CRAGMONT SUPERBALL

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE # _____

ADDRESS: _____

My average score: (Circle one)

Over 100	95—99	90—94
85—89	80—84	75—79
74 or Less	I am a non-player	

PARTNER'S NAME: _____ TELEPHONE # _____

PARTNER'S ADDRESS: _____

Partner's average score: (Circle one)

Over 100	95—99	90—94
85—89	80—84	75—79
74 or Less	I am a non-player	

CRAGMONT WOMAN'S CONFERENCES

by Ruth Warrick



F.W.B. Women's Conference ~ Aug. 3~8, 1981

The weeks of August 3-8 and 10-15 will long be remembered by the 200 plus women who attended the conferences at Cragmont. The State Woman's Auxiliary Treasurer, Mrs. Raymond Sasser, in giving her report for the last several years has begun her report by saying, "This is the best ever."

If we may borrow that cliche, that is our sentiment concerning the women's conferences. I would like to express my appreciation to Mrs. Nina Grace Register for her notes on the first week in my absence.

Three buses transported us from eastern North Carolina, and as always the bus fellowship was sweet as we renewed old acquaintances and met first-time campers.

We were greeted by Brother John and Arlinda Williams and excellent staff who prepared delightful meals and shared the comforts of Cragmont during our stay.

The theme for the first week was "The Christian's Key Ring." On Monday night, Mrs. Dola Dudley, director of the conferences, read Psalm 121. The music director, Mrs. Alma Dale, accompanied by Mrs. Geraldine Summerlin at the piano, and Mrs. Alma Buck at the organ, made the chapel ring with blended voices and music. Mrs. Dudley recognized Mrs. Gertrude Ballard, past director of the conference and Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser, co-director, who served for many years. State officers who attended one or both weeks were: Mrs. Happy Taylor, president; Miss Sara Willoughby, vice president; Mrs. Rose Raper, secretary; Mrs. Ruth Warrick, corresponding secretary; Miss Becky Jo Sumner, youth chairman; Mrs. Nina Grace Register, study course chairman; Miss Caroline Castelloe, missions chairman; Mrs. Dola Dudley, program-prayer chairman; and Mrs. Alice Barrow, compiling editor of *Devotion*.



F.W.B. Women's Conference ~ Aug. 10~15, 1981

Others were recognized from the districts. All seven districts were represented during the conferences.

Requests for prayer were offered, with Mrs. Motie Belle Cherry leading the prayer. Testimonies closed the Monday evening service.

Mrs. Norma Jean McLendan gave the morning devotions on Tuesday. Each morning at 9:45 a music and praise time was conducted by Mrs. Alma Dale.

The Tuesday morning worship hour subject was "Key of Power." The speaker was Mrs. Happy Taylor. Mrs. Alma Dale, Mrs. Nina Grace Register, and Mrs. Jean Ackiss sang a special trio, "Lord, I Need You."

Mrs. Alice Barrow taught a Bible study each evening Tuesday through Thursday.

The morning devotions were given Wednesday by Kay Jones. Mrs. Minnie Chandler spoke on "Key of Performance" at the worship service which followed a time of music and testimony.

Mrs. Jean Sasser brought devotions Thursday morning. After a period of music and praise, Mrs. Nina Grace Register presented a message on "Key of Preparation."

Mrs. Linda Jackson gave the Friday morning devotions. The morning music and praise time was followed by Mrs. Deborah King's speaking on "Key of Personal Commitment." The Rev. and Mrs. Joe Ingram and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnard and son Jeffrey, missionary candidates for the Philippines, came for the evening service. Brother Ingram brought the message.

For the second week the conference schedule followed the pattern of the first. The theme for the week was "Open My Eyes." Mrs. Dola Dudley, director, opened the conference Monday evening with Psalm 121. Mrs. Alma Dale directed the music and Mrs. Geraldine Summerlin was pianist. Testimony and praise for answered prayers were expressed.

Mrs. Margaret Woolard gave the morning devotions on Tuesday. Following music and praise time, Mrs. Ruby Hancock spoke on "Privileges of Prayer."

Mrs. Lizzie Dawson presented a Bible study each evening Tuesday through Thursday.

Mrs. Nadine Crocker brought devotions on Wednesday morning. After music and praise time, Mrs. Rose Raper, at the morning worship hour, spoke on "Practicing Stewardship."

Mrs. Carolyn Bennett brought morning devotions on Thursday. Following song and praise time, Mrs. Wallie Hargrove spoke on "Praising."

Mrs. Alice Davis presented morning devotions on Friday, and after the song and praise time that day. Mrs. Lizzie Dawson brought a message, "Proclaiming."

The Rev. and Mrs. Joe Ingram and the Barnards returned to Cragmont for the Friday night mission service. The total mission offering for both weeks was $2,294.56.

On Wednesday evening of each week, an offering was taken for Cragmont. The total for both weeks was $5,347.80. We give God the glory for both of these offerings and believe that God will reward His faithful servants.

The afternoons at Cragmont were spent in taking trips, roaming Cragmont or just rocking away and having fellowship on the porch.

Tuesday afternoon, both weeks, two bus loads of campers went into Asheville Mall to shop and to the Farmer's Market where it seemed that everyone was "brown bagging" when they returned to the bus. The luscious mountain peaches, apples and other produce were shared by all.

Wednesday was the day that the bus headed for Gatlinburg, Tennessee where the group visited Christus Gardens.

Thursday's trip on the first week was rained out. On the second week, some of the campers went to Cherokee.

Friday afternoon was fun time both weeks as homespun talent was demonstrated, to the delight of everyone.

Saturday saw the campers up earlier than usual, with an early breakfast and farewell once again to Cragmont but with a strong resolution, "I'll be back next year."

This article does not pretend to convey anything akin to the wonderful messages, the special music (many were not named in this article, but did outstanding presentations). It is only a brief summary of two glorious weeks that are made available each summer to our women. Mrs. Dola Dudley, director, and Mrs. Alice Barrow, registrar, did an excellent job.

Ruth L. Warrick,
Corresponding Secretary
Women's Auxiliary Conferences

TO CHURCH CLERKS

Please make every effort possible to include the number of men in the Layman's League of your church in your State Convention report.

We need this information.

Paul Beaman
Secretary of State Layman's League Board

TO LAYMAN'S LEAGUE PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES

Please be sure that your church clerk is informed of the number of men on your membership roll.

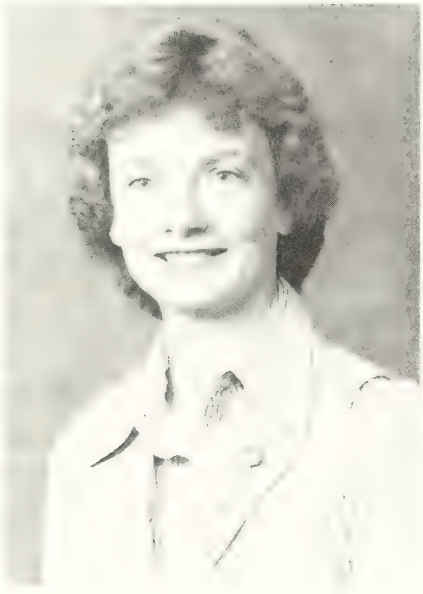
Our State Convention Yearbook does not include Layman's League information from some churches that do have a Layman's League.

Paul Beaman
Secretary of State Layman's League Board

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NEWS DIRECTOR NAMED



Mary Susan Yates

Mary Susan Yates of Kenly, North Carolina, has been named Director of Public Relations at Mount Olive College. The position will include the responsibilities of editing college publications as well as sending out news releases to various papers within the college community. In addition, she will be teaching a class of freshman composition.

Mrs. Yates did her undergraduate work at Wesleyan College and Atlantic Christian College. She graduated *cum laude* in 1972 with a B. A. degree in English education. She is currently completing the requirements for an M. A. degree in English and American literature through North Carolina State University. Before coming to Mount Olive, Mrs. Yates was employed by the Johnston County school system as a teacher at Smithfield Junior High.

Mrs. Yates and her husband, Donnie R. Yates, live on Route 1, Kenly. They have one son, Donnie Jr. Mr. Yates is president of Donnie R. Yates Construction Company.

Mrs. Yates is a member of Kenly Missionary Baptist Church. Her hobbies include swimming, reading, and going to horse shows with her husband, who trains and shows Black Sun, their Tennessee walker.

MOC BEGINS NEW YEAR

Mount Olive College has begun its thirtieth year of educational services to Original Free Will Baptists. It was in the fall of 1952, that the Rev. Lloyd Vernon opened the College with six students at Cragmont Assembly.

When registration is complete for the fall semester, an enrollment of 400 is anticipated. Every dormitory bed will be filled.

Fall Semester

Resident students arrived Sunday, August 30, and began classes on September 2; registration, however, will remain open through September 11 or until spaces are filled. Late applicants are encouraged to contact the College immediately.

One of the primary purposes of Mount Olive College is to assure that every qualified Free Will Baptist student has an opportunity to prepare himself for the fulfilling of his Christian calling.

College Dinners

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, secretary to the president since 1965, has been appointed Associate Director of Development. Her primary duties will be to work with the Free Will Baptist Church in providing gift support that will help enable the College to attain the goal of becoming a four-year institution.

Mrs. Ackiss will direct the annual dinners throughout eastern North Carolina through which every Free Will Baptist will be provided an opportunity to invest in the College. The response of our people at these dinners will be vital in helping Mount Olive to become a senior college.

Increased support is necessary for the College to develop its library and add to its faculty persons who are professionally qualified to teach at the senior college level.

NEW APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

Mount Olive College faculty returned to the campus on Monday, August 24, for Fall Faculty Conference. Frank Harrison, chaplain, gave the devotional and Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, vice-president and dean of the College, gave the introduction. Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, welcomed the returning faculty, introduced new faculty and staff, and referred to changes in personnel which took place during the summer.

New full-time faculty members are Arthur D. Cassill in accounting, Kathy Ann Talton in mathematics, and Irene Weldon in voice. In welcoming the new professors, Dr. Raper stated that these people would be assets to an already excellent College faculty.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassill are coming to Mount Olive from Kentucky where Mr. Cassill was doing additional graduate study

at Eastern Kentucky University. His wife was a teacher in the Lawrenceburg Community Schools. They have one child and are members of the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Cassill has a B.S. degree in home economics and an M.S. degree in secondary education. At the College, Mrs. Cassill has been appointed as admissions counselor. Mr. Cassill holds a B.S. degree in business education and accounting and an M.B.A. degree in management and finance from Eastern Kentucky University. He also has his broker's license and is a C.P.A. He has taught accounting at the South Dearborn School Corp. and the University of Cincinnati. He has also held the position of staff accountant at The Provident Bank in Cincinnati, Ohio. At Mount Olive, he has been appointed as a professor in the business department.

Kathy Ann Talton of Mount Olive is coming to the College as a professor of mathematics. Ms. Talton graduated with honors from Meredith College in 1980 with a B.S. degree in mathematics. At Meredith, she was a member of Kappa Nu Sigma and a recipient of the Julia Hamlet Harris Scholarship. Ms. Talton is pursuing her graduate study at North Carolina State University where she is a candidate for an M.S. in mathematics.

Ida Irene Weldon is coming to Mount Olive College from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, where she was an assistant professor of music. Ms. Weldon is a graduate of Saint Mary's College and of the New England Conservatory of Music where she received a Bachelor of Music degree in 1963 and a Master of Music degree in 1965. She has given performances in the United States, Europe, and Scandinavia. Ms. Weldon has also served as vocalist for the North Carolina and Iowa Symphonies. She is affiliated with the National Association of Teachers of Singing and Music Teachers National Association. She is also a member of the Southern Baptist Church.

New appointments to the staff include Mary Susan Yates as director of public relations, Tamara W. Hines as secretary to the president, Mary McKinney as faculty secretary, Nancy W. Cassill as admissions counselor, and Deborah Kornegay as college nurse.

Changes in the College's organizational structure are as follows. Al Warrick, former director of admissions, has been appointed professor of health and physical education for the 1981-82 school year. He will also coach the girls' basketball team. Nancy Sampsell, who served as director of development, will be the new director of admissions. Ruth Allen, secretary for the development office, will go with Mrs. Sampsell as her secretary. Jean F. Ackiss, former secretary to the president, will be the new associate director of development.

Of the new additions to the faculty and staff, Dr. Raper said, "Each new appointment and every change made in the organizational structure of Mount Olive College has been effected with the strengths of the individuals in mind." He also said that he believed the College has never been better able to fulfill its goal of helping each student attain his mission in life by providing a Christian education.

NEWS AND NOTES

Upcoming Events at Verona Church

The "Four in Christ" quartet from New Bern, North Carolina, will present a program of gospel music on Saturday, September 5, 1981, at Verona Free Will Baptist Church near Jacksonville, North Carolina. This service will begin at 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, September 6, homecoming services will be observed. The morning message will be brought by the pastor, the Rev. Boyd Shook. Immediately following the morning worship service, lunch will be served in the fellowship hall.

Revival services will begin on Monday, September 7, and will continue through Friday, September 11. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Special music will be presented each evening. The pastor of the church will conduct the services.

Robert's Grove Church Honors Pastor and Wife

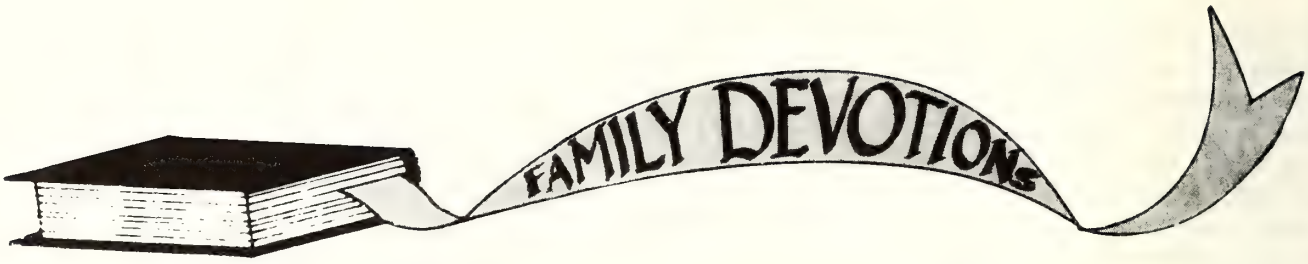


The Rev. and Mrs. Jerry A. Allen

On Sunday morning, August 9, 1981, Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, presented a beautifully decorated cake to their pastor, the Rev. Jerry A. Allen, and his wife, Ruth, honoring them on their twentieth wedding anniversary, which was August 13. Mr. Bobby Johnson, Sunday school superintendent, made the presentation.

Then, after the evening service, Mr. Allen invited the congregation into the fellowship hall where they made several freezers of ice cream. They enjoyed anniversary cake and ice cream along with an hour of wonderful fellowship together. After refreshments the group gathered around the piano and sang several songs.

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Scripture Reading – Matthew 22:17-21

HOME-GROWN BARBARIANS

Perhaps Lord Macaulay, the English historian, essayist, poet and statesman of a century ago, foresaw our day of self-assertive democratic decadence when he wrote of the United States:

"Your republic will be pillaged and ravaged in the twentieth century, just as the Roman Empire was by the barbarians of the fifth century, with this difference: the devastators of the Roman Empire, the Huns and Vandals, came from abroad, while your barbarians will be the people of your own country and the products of your own institutions."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake . . . (1 Peter 2:13).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Scripture Reading – Ephesians 2:1-9

COME BOLDLY

In the vestry of St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome is a doorway marked with a cross. Every twenty-fifth year the Pope and his attendants demolish the door. Then the multitude passes into the cathedral and comes up to the altar by a way which the majority never entered before and will never enter again.

Suppose that the way to God's throne of grace was accessible only once in twenty-five years!

PRAYER THOUGHT

People of any clime, color or condition may go at any time to "the throne of grace, (and) . . . *obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need"* (Hebrews 4:16).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Scripture Reading – Deuteronomy 30:10-20

ONE OF SADDEST

Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, outstanding spokesman of liberalism, said sometime before his death, "One of the saddest sights of this generation is to see Christians who have cast off the old faith and have retained no faith at all!"

It is inevitable that no faith remains when God's Word is fictionized or allegorized, and the basic doctrines of the Bible are rejected.

PRAYER THOUGHT

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Scripture Reading – 1 Corinthians 7:1-36

STEPS TO A HAPPY MARRIAGE

1. Have your own home, no matter how humble; 2. Share the day's activities with each other and also your hopes for the future; 3. Meet each other at least halfway when discouragements arise. Quarrels are not a matter of *who's* right, but *what's* right; 4. Involve each other in family finances—in spending and saving; 5. Be together in whatever discipline and punishments you use in rearing children; 6. Remember that small acts of appreciation can be the most effective way to demonstrate love and respect for each other; 7. Worship as a family—at home and in church.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh (Genesis 2:24).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Scripture Reading – Exodus 20:9-11

A WORKING DEFINITION OF HELL

Said Bernard Shaw, "A perpetual holiday is a good working definition of hell!"

Said Dr. Edwin Zabriskie, renowned neurologist, "Retirement can be the severest shock that the human organism can sustain!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Scripture Reading – Psalm 71:9-24

KEEP GOING

As the years pass, keep mentally vigorous. The brain, like the muscles of the body, needs activity to keep fit. The more it's used, the more efficient it remains.

Sir Winston Churchill mobilized the entire British Empire during World War II when he was sixty-six.

Frank Lloyd Wright, the famous architect, designed New York City's imposing Guggenheim Museum when he was in his 80's and 90's.

When in his eighty-first year, Tennyson wrote *Crossing the*

Bar, a poem whose fear-allaying, hope-imparting message will endure as long as time lasts.

Keep going, and old age will find it hard to catch up with you!

PRAYER THOUGHT

They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing (Psalm 92:14).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Job 19:23-29

SHAKESPEARE'S BONES

Shakespeare's body was interred in the chancel of the Episcopal church in Stratford-on-Avon. The inscription on his tomb says, "Good friend, for Jesus' sake, forbear to dig the dust enclosed here. Blest be the man that spares these stones, and curst be he that moves my bones."

Long ago Jesus said, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28, 29).

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me (Psalm 49:15).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NOTICES

There will be no issue of *The Free Will Baptist* printed September 30, 1981, because of our decision not to print more than 48 issues per year. All items for publication in the September 23 issue should be in the hands of the editor no later than September 16.

The Press and all its bookstores will be closed September 7, Labor Day.

NEWS FROM DEAF CAMP

by Dale and Jasmine Albertson



Camp Eagles Nest for the hearing impaired was held July 13 through July 17 bringing a bounty of blessings to both campers and staff members. This was the fourth annual camp and although decisions for Christ have been made each year, this was the first camp that included a baptismal service. On Thursday evening, the Rev. Dale Albertson baptized three of the four new converts, as parents of the campers and several members of Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church gave support through their presence.



What a beautiful and soul-stirring experience to *"watch"* the gospel delivered in sign language! We praise the Lord for allowing us to be a part of this work.

The camp is supported by the North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department and directed by the Rev. and Mrs. Dale Albertson. Staff members included: Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Haddow-Green, Evelyn Taylor, Jasmine Jones, Dana Daniell, Janice Weston, Judy Hayes, Doris Phillips, and Lillian Jackson.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 13

OUR SHEPHERD GOD

Lesson Text: Psalm 23
Memory Verse: Psalm 23:1

I. INTRODUCTION

The bus was rolling swiftly down the road to Bethlehem. Seated by a window, I was gazing out at the rolling hills beautiful with the delicate green of spring. Then I saw him!

In the flat floor of a small valley he was striding easily toward the highway. Tall and erect, he looked like an athlete in spite of the dark robe that covered him from neck to instep. His short beard was black below the tan of a flowing headdress, and the staff he carried was as tall as he was. Close at his heels, tightly bunched together, came perhaps half a hundred sheep.

David! Did he once lead his flock of sheep through that same green valley near Bethlehem? Were his sheep perhaps grazing on these very hills when he raised his eyes and sang that song now treasured in millions of hearts? In the gentle rumble of the bus I could hear the Hebrew words: "Yah-*weh*-ro-*ee;* lo *eh*-eh-*seh.*" "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

Of course no one knows when or where David composed the Twenty-third Psalm. Some think it must have been in later life, when he ate at a table instead of under a tree by his resting flock, when he drank from a cup instead of bowing his face to still waters as the sheep did, when he was threatened by enemies more malicious than a lion or a bear. But whenever he first hummed the tune and fitted words to the melody, the song has its background in those hills near Bethlehem, where grass grows green and streams lie still, where cliffs tower over a ravine as deep and dark as the valley of the shadow of death, and where the blue arch of sky calls thoughts upward to the shepherd God. —**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. G. Campbell Morgan tells us that the word *psalm* is the anglicized form of a Greek word for a song accompanied by the harp. The Hebrew title of the book was simply Praises, or Book of Praises. So it is well as we study one of these great psalms today to remember that they were written to be sung, and like the hymns of our church, they express great emotional feelings about God and our relationship to Him.

B. Sometimes we think of David as the author of the whole Book of Psalms, but this is not true. Although he wrote more of them than any one else, he composed only a little more than half; the others were by several different writers. Nor do we know the identity of the editor who selected these psalms of the Jewish people and placed them in this book, but we may be sure that they were written and selected by the inspiration of God.

C. The Psalms are divided into five sections: Book 1, Psalms 1-41; Book 2, Psalms 42-72; Book 3, Psalms 73-89; Book 4, Psalms 90-106; Book 5, Psalms 107-150.

D. Psalm 23 is called the "Pearl of Psalms," and the "Psalm of the Great Shepherd." It is said to be the simplest song that has ever been sung. It was written by David, the shepherd king, but at what period of his life is not known. There is no doubt that it is one of the most familiar portions of Scripture, and it is possible that more people have memorized these verses than any other in all the Bible. This psalm is probably quoted at the bedsides of the sick and dying and in times of sorrow more than any other passage in all the Bible. It is a greatly loved portion of God's Word.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Of the Twenty-third Psalm, a noted minister, Kyle M. Yates, wrote: "This is indeed the pearl of the Psalms, a nightingale singing in the world's night of loneliness and need. It has sung itself into millions of weary hearts and carried into the recesses of these hearts a trust and a confidence akin to that in the heart of the shepherd on Bethlehem's hills."

B. One will not risk rejection of this passage as one of the great scriptural portions of the Bible. It is accepted by all as one of the most comforting and reassuring passages of the Scriptures. It has appealed to the imagination of children, captured the attention of young men and women, proved a source of strength to many in their midyears of struggle and uncertainty, and brought solace and assurance to those facing the later years of their life.

C. In these six brief verses the psalmist, probably David, masterfully shows how God cares for His own as a good shepherd would care for his sheep.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IN MEMORIAM

Walter Monroe Glisson

Sweet Gum Grove Community, Stokes, North Carolina, was saddened by the passing of Walter Monroe Glisson, age 21, July 7, 1981, who was accidentally electrocuted while working on a building in Indian Beach. He made his profession of faith in Christ, September 12, 1976, under the ministry of the Rev. Franklin Brinson.

Monroe spent most of his life in Pitt County and was employed by East Coast Roofing Company. He was a member of Sweet Gum Grove church.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Friday in the Wilkerson Funeral Chapel by his pastor, the Rev. David Hill, and the Rev. Andrew Hill, a former pastor. Burial was in Pinewood Memorial Park.

He is survived by his father, Walter D. Glisson of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Glisson of Stokes; a brother, David Earl Glisson of Florida; a sister, Carol Ann Glisson of Grimesland; and three foster sisters.

The Lord saw fit to call Monroe's mother to her reward when he was 10 years of age and he then made his home with his foster parents. He was a quiet, very likeable and hard working boy. May his many acts of love and kindness sink deep down into our grateful hearts where memory will hold them fast so that we shall not forget what a privilege and a blessing it was to have known him.

We extend to the family our deepest sympathy; and may they find comfort and peace in Him who said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Mrs. Eloise Futrell, *Chairman*
Mrs. James Smith
Mrs. Provot Lassiter
Church Obituary Committee

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH MRS. CRAIG?

submitted by Harold Jones

The following news item appeared in *The Nashville Banner,* June 19, 1956, Porter, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Ella Craig, age 81, hasn't missed Sunday school in 1,040 Sundays—a perfect record for 20 years.

1. Doesn't Mrs. Craig ever have company on Sunday to keep her away from church?
2. Doesn't she ever go anywhere on Saturday night and get up tired on Sunday mornings?
3. Doesn't she ever have headaches, colds, nervous spells, tired feelings, poor breakfasts, sudden calls out of town, business trips, Sunday picnics, or any trouble of any kind?
4. Doesn't she have any friends at all—friends who invite her on a week-end trip to the lake or mountains?
5. Doesn't she ever sleep late on Sunday mornings?
6. Doesn't it ever rain or snow on Sunday mornings?
7. Doesn't she ever get her feelings hurt by someone in church?
8. Doesn't she ever get mad at the preacher or her Sunday school teacher?
9. Doesn't she have a radio or television so she can listen to "some mighty good sermons from out of town?"

What's the matter with Mrs. Craig?

News and Notes

(Continued from Page 11)

On Thursday night, August 13, a group from the church met at Peaden's Fish Camp at Fayetteville, North Carolina, to eat seafood.

Approximately thirty-six people enjoyed the night out.

Make Plans Now to Attend . . .

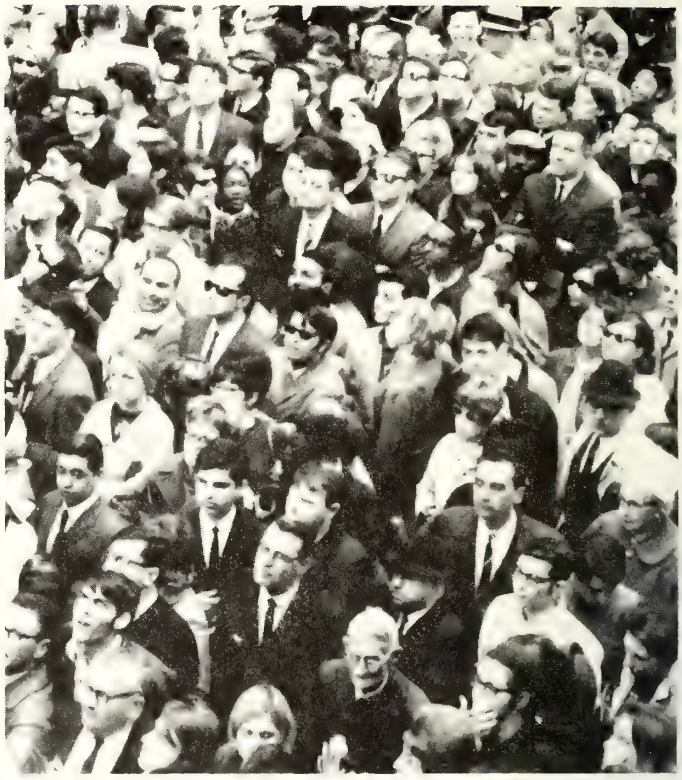
Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet

(Wives Are Invited Too!)

The banquet will be held Friday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m., at the downtown campus of Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. Mr. Linwood Smith, the general superintendent of the Sunday school program at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, will be the guest speaker. The cost of the meal will be $4 per person.

The banquet is sponsored by the North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

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Convention Previews

The Free Will Baptist

EDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Lenoir Community College Gymtorium
Kinston, North Carolina

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
DURHAM, N.C.



Shortchanging Ourselves

It is Thursday afternoon and many seats can be found in the meeting area. The crowds that bustled around on Wednesday have really thinned out. All that seem to remain are ministers and maybe a handful of delegates. This is the first time some of the clergymen have been seated during the entire session—then again, this is the first meeting many delegates have missed. Does this sound familiar? Surely it must, for such is commonplace at the State Convention.

It was at a Union meeting in 1898 (held at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County) that Asa Garris made a resolution that began the groundwork for a State Convention. His resolution was as follows: "Be it resolved, that we earnestly request every Free Will Baptist church in North Carolina to represent in the next Union Conference by delegate, letter, or pastor with contribution."

No further action was taken toward a combined organization until 1912. At that time, Dr. E. L. St. Claire began the motion seeking "to increase our Zion and get our brethren united into one convention." The first State Convention was held September 17, 1913, in Bailey, North Carolina. Four Conferences (Cape Fear, Central, Eastern, and Western) represented, sixty-four churches sent delegates, and twenty ordained ministers registered. Annual sessions have been held ever since. (But one may wonder if we have forgotten our cause—that being "to advance, promote and increase the cause of Jesus Christ.")

Many churches go to a lot of expense to send their delegates and ministers to such meetings, and they are getting shortchanged when those they send do not attend sessions. Many—for one reason or another—duck out whenever business is being discussed. But is it not their (yea, our) ethical, moral, and spiritual obligation to attend all sessions *and* to vote on all business matters?

The percentage of persons actively taking part diminishes throughout the course of any Convention. Why are we so prone to voice our opinions and so unwilling to vote on issues? Why are we so quick to criticize but so unwilling to make better that which we lambaste? Why are we so eager to talk outside Convention doors—before and after business sessions—but so unwilling to stand up and be counted at the appropriate times?

All decisions made, all business transacted may not meet with our approval, but even so it is our responsibility to pull together after issues have been settled. It is only when we unite our efforts, humble ourselves before God, and seek Him who made us that we can be all He meant for us to be.

Our attendance, attitude, and voting patterns seem to be suffering from some chronic condition—and our Convention deserves more respect and consideration.

Cover Photo by Walter Reynolds

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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"A Meaningful Church" —
The Theme of the 1981 Convention

THE Sixty-ninth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, along with the Mission Rally, will be held in the Lenoir Community College gymtorium, in Kinston, North Carolina. The theme of the Convention is "A Meaningful Church" and the September 16 and 17 meeting should be the largest gathering of Original Free Will Baptists in history, as many churches, delegates, and pastors are even now getting ready for the session.

Speaking about the meeting, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, president of the State Convention, said, "This session will afford to us one of the best Conventions witnessed yet. We will be hearing a report from the Committee on the proposed revision of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,* a report from the Retirement Homes Board dealing with plans for a rest home, and a report from the new Committee on Stewardship set into motion at the last Convention. We will also hear a report from the Scouting Commission dealing with their new thrust."

Registration for the Convention will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the session will open at 9:30. (The schedule for the Convention can be found on page 4 of this issue.)

During the course of the session, messages will be delivered by the Rev. Eddie Edwards, pastor of East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina; and the Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark, assistant pastor of Sherron Acres Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

The 1981 Mission Rally will begin at 7:30 Wednesday evening, with the Home Mission and Church Extension Department of the State Convention in charge. The program for the rally will focus on youth work carried on by the department. A group of young people from Cape Colony Mission, Edenton, will present a skit at that time, and Mr. Dean Kennedy will direct a combined Home Missions youth choir.

Remember, each church should send its pastor and his wife as well as its delegates. Every church representing may send a delegate for every 100 members or fraction thereof. It is important that delegates attend the entire Convention, *not just the first day,* since the majority of business is transacted on Thursday.

When delegates and ministers arrive, they will receive a booklet of reports. This booklet will help to save time, giving those in attendance an opportunity to see and hear what the speakers are saying instead of trying to hear over those passing out materials.

An information desk will be located outside the gymtorium to assist anyone with any questions on locations as well as Convention facilities. Should anyone be expecting a call, he will be able to leave this information at the desk. He will be informed immediately upon receipt of such.

To miss this Convention is to miss one of the best opportunities to help your Church advance for Christ!



PROGRAM FOR THE

SIXTY-NINTH SESSION

of the

North Carolina State Convention

of

Original Free Will Baptists

Lenoir Community College Gymtorium
Kinston, North Carolina

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1981

MORNING SESSION

8:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
9:30—Convention Called to Order, the Rev. Gary Bailey
9:35—Congregational Singing, Music Director
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Bryant Hines
9:45—Welcome, the Rev. James Evans
—Response, the Rev. Earl Glenn
—Partial Report of the Credentials Committee, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
9:55—President's Remarks, the Rev. David C. Hansley
—Appointment of Committees
—Executive Committee Reports
—Miscellaneous Business
10:10—Home Missions, the Rev. Taylor Hill
10:25—Free Will Baptist Press, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
10:40—Church Finance, The Rev. Walter Reynolds
10:45—Children's Home, the Rev. J. B. Hardee
11:00—Congregational Singing
—Offering (for the Convention)
—Introductory Message, the Rev. Eddie Edwards
11:45—Recess for Lunch
—(Lunch at the Restaurant of Your Choice)

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Congregational Singing
1:35—Revision Committee, the Rev. D. W. Hansley
1:40—Retirement Homes, the Rev. Walter Sutton
1:50—Recognition of Fraternal Delegates
1:55—Cragmont Assembly, the Rev. John Williams
2:05—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Joseph Ingram
2:20—Mount Olive College, Dr. W. Burkette Raper
—Adjourn for the Day

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

7:30—Mission Rally

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1981

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Leon Harris
9:40—General Conference, the Rev. John Owens
9:45—North Carolina Ministerial Association, the Rev. C. H. Overman
9:50—State Sunday School Convention, Mr. Stanley Jenkins
10:00—Superannuation, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
10:05—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Mrs. Happy Taylor
10:10—State League Convention, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
10:20—Chaplain's Commission, the Rev. Sheldon Howard
10:30—Camp Vandemere, the Rev. Ralph Sumner
10:35—Commission on Scouting, the Rev. Scott Sowers
10:40—Final Report of Credentials Committee, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
10:45—Obituary Committee Report
10:55—Miscellaneous Business
11:00—Congregational Singing
—Offering (for the Convention)
—Message, the Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark
11:45—Recess for Lunch
—(Lunch at the Restaurant of Your Choice)

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Congregational Singing and Prayer
1:35—Treasurer's Report, Mrs. Frank L. Walston
—Report of the Resolutions Committee
—Report of the Nominating Committee
—Adjournment and Benediction

REVISION TO BE CONSIDERED DURING 1981 SESSION



The Rev. David W. Hansley (right), chairman of the Revision Committee, gives the Rev. Gary Bailey (center), secretary of the Executive Committee, a copy of the completed document. State Convention President David C. Hansley (left) looks on.

The State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened in Mount Olive, North Carolina, September 15, 16, 1976, with Mount Olive College serving as host.

The Convention in session recommended that a committee be formed to study the *Statement of Faith and Discipline of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* for revision and clarification. The resolution reads as follows:

"Whereas the history and doctrinal heritage of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina extends back to the General Baptists of England in the Seventeenth Century, and

"Whereas in 1977 the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will observe the Two Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of the first Free Will Baptist church in America,

"Therefore, Be It Resolved:

"That the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists examine the articles of faith and discipline as now contained in the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,* and

"That the Convention further examine the historical articles of faith derived from the General Baptist Confession of Faith in 1660 which were used by the majority of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina until about 1949, and

"That the purpose of these examinations be to recommend any appropriate revisions in the Official *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,* and

"Be It Further Resolved:

"That each Conference belonging to the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists be asked to designate three members (its moderator and the Chairman and Secretary of its Board of Ordination are recommended) to a Study Commission to carry out the proposes of this Resolution."

The Executive Committee of the State Convention invited each Conference to send representatives to study the formation of a Revision Committee. This Study Committee agreed that each Conference appoint two representatives to the Revision Committee.

Those appointed were: Eastern Conference—David W. Hansley, Bruce Dudley, Bill Futch (alternate), J. B. Starnes (alternate); Central Conference—Gary M. Bailey, N. Bruce Barrow; Western Conference—DeWayne Eakes, Ray Wells; Pee Dee Association—William J. Godwin, Jack Penny, James B. Hardee; Cape Fear Conference—Curtis Jones, C. Felton Godwin; Albemarle—Robert May, Francis Garner, Marvin Waters (alternate); and Piedmont Conference—James L. Kivett, Fred Johnson, M. E. Cox.

The Revision Committee held its first meeting on March 1, 1977, at Mount Olive College in the Free Will Baptist Historical Room of the Moye Library. This meeting was devoted to a survey of the history of Original Free Will Baptists beginning in 1609 in England through 1976. Special emphasis was given to the many and various Confessions of Faith that have been used during the denomination's history. The Revision Committee adopted two of these confessions as the bases for the present revision, namely the Confessions of 1660 and 1812.

Using these two Confessions as the proper foundation, the Revision Committee worked to simplify and clarify the historical confessions of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination. The work was presented to the State Convention Study Committee on February 15, 1979; the work was then presented at a special called session of the North Carolina State Convention on August 14, 1979.

(Turn the Page)

The special called session of the State Convention returned the proposed *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the General Baptist Heritage)* to the Revision Committee. The action was effected when the Convention adopted a report from the Executive Committee stating "that the Executive Committee remand the proposed revision back to the Revision Committee for further study and revision after hearing discussion at the called session and receiving suggestions from individuals and groups within the Convention." The Convention also approved a plan of the Executive Committee to receive written proposals of amendments until November 15, 1979.

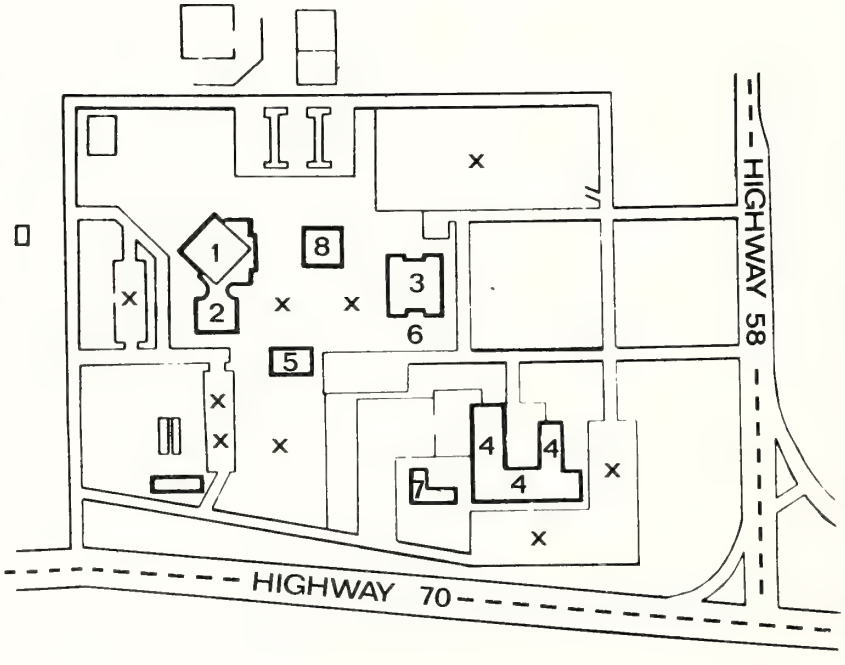
Changes were suggested to the Committee and most were incorporated into the revision (copies of which will be available at the Convention).

The Committee for the Revision of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* has now finished its work. The completed document was given to the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention on Thursday, August 27, 1981.

The revision will be considered at the 1981 Session of the State Convention when it meets September 16 and 17.

LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAP

The 1981 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be held at Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina. The Convention will make use of the gymtorium (see No. 1 on the map).



1—Gymtorium
2—College Union
3—Main Building
4—Bullock Building
5—Commercial Building
6—Faculty Parking Lot
7—Continuing Education Building
8—Learning Resources Center
X—Parking

CONVENTION PERSONALITIES

Convention President



The Rev. David Charles Hansley is President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

1981 Speakers



The Rev. Eddie Edwards will speak on Wednesday morning. Mr. Edwards serves as pastor of East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina.



The Thursday morning speaker is the Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark, assistant pastor of Sherron Acres Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE CALLS ITS BEST BACK HOME



Mrs. Jean Ackiss and Mrs. Tamara Hines

A number of changes have been made in the organizational structure of Mount Olive College due to the growth of the College and the need to provide additional services for the Free Will Baptist Church, which supports the College. One of the most important changes has been the appointment of Jean F. Ackiss, former secretary to the president, to the position of associate director of development. Mrs. Ackiss, who has been Dr. Raper's secretary for the past sixteen years, completed the one-year business course offered by the College in 1960. By design rather than coincidence, the president's new secretary, Tamara Hines, is also a graduate of Mount Olive College with an associate degree in secretarial science.

When asked why both of his secretaries had been chosen from the College's own graduates, Dr. Raper replied that an education at Mount Olive is a total education with attention paid to a student's educational, emotional, and spiritual well-being. He felt that a person educated in this atmosphere would best be able to assist in the operation of the College.

Of her work at Mount Olive, Jean said, "I've grown with the College. It's a good working situation with unlimited opportunities for growth."

Jean came to the campus as a work/study student in 1959. She recalled that one of her duties was to clean Dr. Raper's office when the whole college was located at the downtown campus. She completed her course of study in 1960 and worked for a large finance company in New Bern until 1966 when she again met Dr. Raper—this time, at Cragmont. She remembers that there Dr. Raper first mentioned the possibility of her becoming his secretary.

Jean considered his offer and talked about the decision with her father. He urged her to take advantage of the opportunity. "Jean," he said, "just working at Mount Olive College will give you an education." Her father knew what he was talking about because as of Monday, August 24, Jean assumed her new duties as associate director of development.

Of Jean, Dr. Raper said, "I've watched her progress. Jean has been an invaluable employee to me and to the college. Although I'll miss her in my office, I believe Jean can best serve Mount Olive College and the Free Will Baptist Church by working in our development program." Her primary responsibility will be to work with the Free Will Baptists in helping to provide the gift support necessary for the development of Mount Olive into a four-year college.

Jean is married to Bobby Ackiss, who is a senior license examiner in the Goldsboro office. They live in Goldsboro and are members of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

Tamara Hines, Dr. Raper's new secretary, is a 1980 graduate of Mount Olive College. She came to the College in the fall of 1978 and met her husband, Bryant, who was a ministerial student. They married during the summer of 1979 and she graduated the following year. Tammy worked for the law firm of Taylor, Warren, Kerr & Walker until she applied this past summer for a secretarial vacancy. When the position of secretary to the president became vacant, Dr. Raper invited her to fill it.

When asked about her feelings toward her new job, Tammy replied that she was very excited about working with Dr.

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS & NOTES

Ordination Service Held



The Rev. Clarence Harris

On August 14, 1981, an ordination service was held for Mr. Clarence Harris at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, North Carolina. Approximately 225 people from several churches in the Central Conference attended the service.

Members of the Ordaining Council conducted the ceremony with the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow presenting the candidate, the Rev. Jack Mayo presenting the Bible and the charge, while the Rev. Royce Reynolds offered the prayer of consecration. Other pastors participating in the service were the guest speaker, the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser, and the Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the host church, who acted as song leader and offered the benediction. All ministers present participated in the laying on of hands.

Mr. Harris committed his soul into the care of the Lord more than twenty years ago and served faithfully for years in First Church of Tarboro as well as working diligently for the Lord in rest homes and jails.

In September 1976, Mr. Harris was licensed to preach by his home church, and shortly after he began to do supply pastoral work in several of the Central Conference churches. Presently, he is serving at the Oak Grove church, Elm City, where he has been since February 1981.

Following the Ordination Service, the church social committee hosted a social hour in the fellowship building.

Mr. Harris' wife, Thelma, has also served faithfully in the church as a longtime choir member, Sunday school teacher, and woman's auxiliary and Dorcas Circle office holder.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris have three children and nine grandchildren.

Eastern District Youth to Meet

The Eastern District Youth Convention will meet on Saturday, September 19, at Gray Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Deep Run, North Carolina. The scheduled program is as follows:

OPENING SESSION
Pianist, Doronda Stroud, Smith's New Home
9:30—Registration ($5 registration fee from each church)
10:00—Devotions, Holly Springs
10:10—Welcome, Gray Branch
—Response, Rusty Smith, Christian Chapel
10:15—Chorus Time, Fifth Union
10:30—Skit, Carteret Union, Crab Point
10:40—Vandemere Reunion
10:50—Special Music, Third Union, Folkstone
11:00—YFA Program
—Skit, "Joshua Had Problems Too"
—Special Speaker, Charles Barnard, Free Will Baptist Missionary to the Philippines
—AFC Program
—Standing Alone, the Rev. Andrew Hill
—Get Acquainted with Shanna Barnard (daughter of Charles and Jackie Barnard)
—Chorus Time
12:00—Adjournment and Lunch
1:00—Chorus Time, Fifth Union
—"My Lord Has a Big House"
1:15—Prayer, Kelly Cauley, Secretary
—Announcements and Sharing Time, District Officers and Advisor
1:30—"Let It Growl"
BUSINESS SESSION
1:45—Todd Ard, President
—Roll Call of Churches
—Offering
—Reading of Minutes
—Treasurer's Report
—Other Business
2:15—Unity Circle and Closing Prayer, Kelly Buck, Vice President

Homecoming to Be Observed at Belhaven Church

Belhaven Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven, North Carolina, will hold its annual homecoming on September 13. At 11 a.m. the Rev. Beverly Ballard, pastor, will bring the morning message followed by lunch in the newly-renovated fellowship hall. The highlight of the day will be a gospel singing at 1:30 p.m.

A feature this year will be an "ingathering" of funds to help pay for painting this historic little church. Donations are being accepted from individuals, former members, other churches and businesses. While at one time the church was one of the mainstays of the Free Will Baptists in an area from Pantego to Swanquarter, the membership has through the years dwindled as older members passed on and

younger ones moved away to better jobs or larger churches.

Any donation may be sent by mail to the church treasurer, Mrs. Catherine O'Neal, 211 Bay Street, Belhaven, North Carolina.

The church membership joins the pastor in inviting all former pastors, former members, friends of all denominations and the public to attend the homecoming. Also, any visiting singers will be invited to participate in the gospel sing.

150-Year-Old Church Begins Full-Time Ministry

After only having worship sevices on the quarter and half-time basis for over 150 years, beginning September 13, 1981, Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Seven Springs, North Carolina, will begin having worship services each Sunday morning at 11 a.m.

The members thank God for the progress they have seen in the church within the last few months. The Rev. Grady Davis is pastor of the church.

Upcoming Events at May's Chapel Church



The Rev. Davie Brinson

Revival services will be held at May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Dudley, North Carolina, Monday through Friday, September 21-25, with the Rev. Davie Brinson of Smithfield, North Carolina, as guest evangelist. Services will begin each night at 7:30. The pastor, the Rev. Andrew Hill, and the congregation cordially invite the public to attend.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 27, at May's Chapel church. The pastor will bring the morning message and lunch will be served in the fellowship hall. There will be no afternoon services. All former church members and visitors are cordially invited.

Family Day at Rock Springs Church

Sunday, September 13, has been designated as "Family Day" at Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church near Bailey, North Carolina. The youth department will have special music during the morning worship. After the morning service, all families will join together for lunch in the fellowship building.

On Sunday evening at 7 p.m., the Singing Samaritans from Wallace, North Carolina, will be featured in concert at the church.

Everyone is invited to come and share in the events of this special day. The Rev. Jack Lassiter is the pastor.

Revival and Homecoming at Barnes Hill Church

Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Nashville, North Carolina, announces revival services beginning September 21 through September 26, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Lloyd F. Hargis, pastor of Trinity church, Clayton, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 27, with services beginning at 9:45 a.m.

The Rev. Robert Langley, pastor, and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

Two Young Men Called Into Ministry



The Tim Wallace family and the Orvin B. Everette Jr. family

Verona Free Will Baptist Church, Verona, North Carolina, is happy to announce that from its congregation God has called two of its young men into the ministry. Both have been approved by the church and the ordaining council of the Eastern Conference for license. They are Tim Wallace and Orvin B. Everette Jr.

(Continued on Page 15)

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MORE PLANNING SESSIONS FOR COLLEGE

Three more planning sessions remain for the Mount Olive College Dinners, a fund-raising program designed to enable the members of the Free Will Baptist Church to contribute to the education of students at MOC. The planning sessions are as follows:

Washinton, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, and Chowan Counties will meet on Thursday, September 10, 7:30 p.m., at Mount Tabor church near Creswell.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties will meet on Friday, September 11, 8 p.m., at Oak Grove church near Newton Grove.

Carteret County will meet on Saturday, September 11, 7:30 p.m., at Crab Point church near Morehead City.

A complete schedule of the dinners will be announced at a later date.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW YEAR AT MOC

by W. Burkette Raper, President

The 1981-82 academic year at Mount Olive College has begun on a strong and positive note. Morale is high, enrollment is good, and there is a sense of excitement in the air as the College focuses on plans for the future development of a four-year program.

The Board of Trustees

On August 25 the Board of Trustees met in quarterly session, and among the items of business transacted were the following:

—Received a report from the Advisory Committee on the Four-Year Curriculum for Ministers. After the curriculum is reviewed by the faculty it will be presented to the Board at its November meeting for adoption. This curriculum for ministers represents the first baccalaureate program of study ever offered by and for Original Free Will Baptists in North Carolina, and it will be available to ministerial students who enter Mount Olive College in 1982 and thereafter.

—Authorized a Steering Committee composed of trustees, members of the administration and faculty, and the Free Will Baptist Church to guide the planning and development of Mount Olive into a four-year college.

—Approved a standing Advisory Committee on Church Relations. The purpose of the committee will be to assist the trustees and administration of the College on all matters regarding educational services to Original Free Will Baptists.

—Accepted a gift in the amount of $10,000 for the purpose of establishing the "Lloyd Vernon Endowment Fund" with the provision that the income from the Fund will be used to create and maintain the "Lloyd Vernon Library Collection for Ministers."

—Approved an operating budget for 1981-82 in the amount of $2,870,541. The budget makes special provisions for library and faculty development and educational equipment designed to help Mount Olive attain its goal of becoming a senior college.

—Reviewed progress and plans relative to the project for College Hall. The Board approved plans for awarding a contract for the project to a reputable construction company on a "cost of the project plus a fee basis" and set a goal of $825,000 in gifts for this project during 1981-82. Reaching this goal would virtually assure that construction of College Hall can begin in 1983.

The Faculty

The faculty went through a week-long series of conferences during August 24-28. It was my privilege to speak to the faculty during the opening conference and I used the subject "A Vision of Greatness" in which I emphasized the importance of the faculty having a vision of greatness for our students, a vision of greatness for their personal and professional development, and a vision of greatness for Mount Olive College.

Dr. Eugene Poston, former president of Gardner-Webb College, spoke to a joint meeting of faculty and trustees on August 25 and met again with the faculty on August 26, during which he shared with us specific steps taken at Gardner-Webb College during the 1960s for the development of a senior college program there. His address left us with the feeling that the

(Continued on Page 15)

News from the

Children's Home

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
July 1981
$14,757.11

ALBEMARLE	
Mount Tabor	$ 140.00
Mount Zion	149.72
Piney Grove	125.00
Sound Side	288.00
Union Chapel	297.20
Total	$ 999.92
CAPE FEAR	
Hopewell	$ 40.00
Mount Olive	6.00
Palmer Memorial	389.81
Powhatan	278.00
Wooten's Chapel	23.55
Total	$ 737.36
CENTRAL	
Aspen Grove	$ 321.00
Ayden	100.00
Black Jack	1,240.92
Community	250.00
Edgewood	5.00
Free Union	776.12
Friendship	60.72
Gum Swamp	750.00
Greenvile, First	10.00
Grimsley	50.00
Harrell's Chapel	135.00
Hickory Grove	14.00
Hugo	188.50
King's Cross Roads	73.96
Otter's Creek	100.05
Peace	130.00
Pleasant Hill	200.00
Reedy Branch	55.00
Rocky Mount, First	25.00
Rose Hill	318.13
Spring Branch	200.00
Tarboro, First	300.00
Winterville	510.20
Total	$5,813.60
EASTERN	
Antioch	$ 375.00
Bridgeton	138.50
Core Creek	86.97
Davis	250.00
Deep Run	100.00
Dublin Grove	16.66
Edwards Chapel	45.00
Ephesus	86.46
Friendship	500.00
Gray Branch	176.00
Hillsberry	30.00
Holly Springs	300.00
Jackson Heights	108.99
Kinston, First	85.00
May's Chapel	50.00
Mount Pleasant	20.00
Mount Zion (Onslow)	50.00
New Bethlehem	189.27
Northeast	48.65
Piney Grove	75.50
Rock of Zion	10.93
Saints Delight	350.00
Smith's New Home	90.00
St. Mary's	300.00
Verona	38.04
Sunday School Convention	68.00
Total	$3,588.97
PIEDMONT	
Bethany	$ 100.00
Faith	94.85
Gethsemane	87.94
Mount Olive	100.00
Sweet Haven	70.00
Union Gospel	211.10
Miscellaneous	100.00
Total	$ 763.89
WESTERN	
Black Jack Grove	$ 150.00
Everett Chapel	85.46
Fellowship	30.96
Free Union	146.02
Kenly	205.00
Little Rock	90.00
Marsh Swamp	232.30
Milbournie	125.00
New Sandy Hill	25.00
People's Chapel	10.00
Pine Level	262.99
Rosebud	5.00
Sherron Acres	175.00
St. Mary's	60.00
Stancill's Chapel	49.64
Union Grove	6.00
Watson's Grove	75.00
Wilson, First	1,095.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Total	$2,853.37

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS
($104)

By Mrs. Melvin Jones in honor of Mount Pleasant church

By William A. Crandall in memory of Joseph C. Coltrain

By William A. Crandall in memory of Walter Monroe Glisson

By Hickory Grove church in memory of Clarence and Martha Briley

By Mr. and Mrs. Russell Britt in memory of Walter Monroe Glisson

By Kenly Auxiliary in memory of Jessie Woodard

COMING EVENTS

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 14—District Layman's League of Central Conference will meet at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, 8 p.m.

September 16, 17—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Churches, Lenoir Community College, Kinston, North Carolina

September 16—State Convention Mission Rally Night

September 24—Eastern Conference Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

September 26—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

NOTICE

There will be no issue of *The Free Will Baptist* printed September 30, 1981, because of our decision not to print more than 48 issues per year. All items for publication in the September 23 issue should be in the hands of the editor no later than September 16.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Beverly Ballard, a member in good standing with the Central Conference and an ordained minister for 18 years, wishes to announce that he is available for either full-time or part-time pastoral services, evangelistic work, or supply ministry.

Mr. Ballard has served for nearly 5 years as pastor of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County and Belhaven Free Will Baptist Church. He may be contacted at 749 Fairmont Village Drive, Ayden, North Carolina 28513 or telephone 746-6046.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 17:19-49

THE GREATER CHALLENGE

The Matterhorn has been called a killer. Though hazardous to mountainclimbers, courageous ones still climb it.

In a little graveyard in Zermatt lie the bodies of men who forfeited their lives in their effort to scale the forbidding peak.

Ice axes which no one disturbs lie on the graves of some.

A shaft of black marble commemorates three young Oxford students who some years ago started climbing and died together on the great mountain. An inscription on the memorial reads: "We who lie here scorned the lesser peaks!"

They chose a greater challenge, though they knew it might cost them their lives.

PRAYER THOUGHT

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22:1-29

THE DECISIVE SEAT OF EVIL

Said George Kennan, former United States ambassador to Russia, "The decisive seat of evil in this world is not in the social and political institutions, but simply in the weakness and imperfections of the human being, including myself and the student militant at the gate."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Resident in the "deceitful . . . and desperately wicked" heart of man are "evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders" (Mark 7:21).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Job 11:7-20

A LIVING HOPE

Said Louis Pasteur: "There are two men in each one of us: the scientist, who desires to attain knowledge of nature through observation, experiment and reasoning; and the man of feeling who mourns his dead children and who cannot prove he shall see them again but believes that he will and lives in that hope. The two domains are distinct, and woe to him who tries to let them trespass upon each other."

PRAYER THOUGHT

As for me, I will behold my face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness (Psalm 17:15).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 7:1-11

SHADES OF ENOCH ARDEN

A man was taken as a prisoner of war when the Russians marched into Germany in 1945. For some time he corresponded with his wife. Then her letters were returned to her. Not hearing from her husband, she presumed that he was dead. After several years, she remarried.

Twenty years later, the "dead" husband gained his freedom and returned home. After much heart searching, the wife annulled her second marriage and remarried her first husband.

Few separations have such a dramatic ending.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The most tragic and irreparable separation will occur when the unsaved hear the fateful words, ". . . Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Luke 12:13-21

A NOBLE DECISION

When he was fifty-three years old, John D. Rockefeller succumbed to illness. During that sickness he resolved that he would devote the rest of his life, not to multiplying the many millions he had already acquired, but to using his fabulous wealth to alleviate suffering and promote the welfare of mankind everywhere.

How wise we are to hold our dollars in trust for God!

PRAYER THOUGHT

There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt (Ecclesiastes 5:13).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:1-17

COMPLETELY UNWORKABLE TODAY

Dr. C. J. Curtis, Professor of Theology at De Paul University, Chicago, said, "The traditional Ten Commandments, conceived in a rural, nomadic society, are completely unworkable today."

The Ten Commandments are as morally binding and perceptive today as when first thundered from Sinai's rocky crags. Social and spiritual confusion ensue when they are regarded as passe. By going counter to them, we break not the commandments but ourselves.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The word of the Lord endureth for ever (1 Peter 1:25).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 6:2-38

THOROUGHLY AUTHENTICATED

George W. Cornell, AP Religion Writer, said, "A swelling tide of discoveries through archeological and historical research have confirmed more and more of that ancient book—the Bible."

Dr. Baruch Ben-Yehudah, an Israeli mathematician and Bible scholar, affirmed, "A great deal of it (the Bible) has been thoroughly authenticated. Every day we're finding new things!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

Renew your subscription during September at current prices.

REVISED MANUAL OF METHODS READY

by Happy Taylor



Mrs. Happy Taylor (seated) and Mrs. Nina Grace Register review a copy of the revised manual.

The *Manual of the Woman's Auxiliary* for Free Will Baptist women in the State of North Carolina was authorized by the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention and was first printed in 1963. The writers of the first edition were the Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Bowen, a Free Will Baptist minister and his wife, who have given many years of devoted service to our denomination.

The manual, designed to serve as a guide for organizing and conducting woman's auxiliaries, states the objectives and standards by which the auxiliaries are to be governed. It is by no means intended to limit the outreach of any auxiliary but rather is a guide to help auxiliaries to be uniform and consistent as we labor together to carry out the Great Commission of our Lord.

The original manual was reprinted in 1974, and by request of the North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, the Literature Committee of 1980 has diligently studied and updated the present manual by incorporating all changes that have been adopted by the state body. The Literature Committee has faith that this manual will continue to be used as a guide and will make a lasting contribution to the lives of those who study and seek to serve the Lord through the Woman's Auxiliary.

Members of the Literature Committee are as follows: Dola Dudley, Chairman; Nina Grace Register, Secretary; Alice Barrow; Evelyn Reynolds; Ruby Hancock; and Happy Taylor, ex officio.

Copies of the new manual, *Manual of Methods of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary,* are available at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. in Ayden; and at the New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston bookstores. The cost of the book is $1.95, plus tax. (Mail orders should be sent to the following address: Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.)

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 20

OUR PLACE IN GOD'S WORLD

Lesson Text: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Memory Verse: Ecclesiastes 3:11

I. INTRODUCTION

Solomon introduces himself as "the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem" (Ecclesiastes 1:1). The Preacher must have been growing old when he wrote Ecclesiastes. (That name is from the Greek. It means Preacher.) He had been around long enough to try everything in his search for happiness: scientific study, the pursuit of pleasure, the building of an empire, commerce, and the amassing of wealth. All of these were as nothing, he said. In the course of his experiments, however, he did find some things good. Some of his thoughts are in the text of this lesson.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Although his name is not attached to the book as the author, tradition has it that Solomon wrote Ecclesiastes under God's inspiration. The writer does identify himself as "the son of David, king in Jerusalem" (1:1), and as "king over Israel in Jerusalem" (1:12). Other references in the book seem to ascribe the work to Solomon. The great wisdom of the author is cited in 1:16; his activity as builder and planter, in 2:4-6; his wealth, in 2:7.

B. There are some who believe that the book is the product of a time after the exile, and therefore could not have been written by Solomon. They usually assume, however, that Solomon is its central figure. Whoever the author was, Ecclesiastes is the story of a man who is searching for happiness.

C. Its theme is that there is no happiness apart from finding and filling the place that God has for one. Most people feel that the main purpose of man's life is to find happiness, but this is not true. The "whole matter" is to "fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man" (12:13), Jew or Christian. However, in thus glorifying God, man finds the fullest measure of happiness and usefulness.

D. It is interesting to go through the book and note some of the things that the writer tried in his search for happiness only to find that he has sought them in vain. He tells of his experience while searching for happiness in learning: "And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceive that this also is vexation of spirit" (1:17). In searching for happiness through gaiety, "I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure and, behold this also is vanity" (2:1). And he tells about his experience with drink: "I sought in mine heart to give myself to wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men, which they would do under the heaven all the days of their life" (2:3). Then "I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards: I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits: I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees" (2:4-6). Whatever he did, he concludes: "This also is vanity and vexation of spirit" (2:26).

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. A dictionary definition of time is "the period between two events or during which something exists, happens, or acts." Perhaps that definition is somewhat over-simplified, but it is suitable for the purposes of our lesson. It is during the period of time wherein our lives exist that things happen according to the measure of our involvement with them. To the Christian time is his to be used for the glory of God, whatever his station in life. To misuse this time for self-aggrandizement is to deny God the glory rightfully His.

B. Each of us has a place in the world God has created, and we are to use the time He gave us to fill that place properly. Very important to us is the fact that in the vast responsibility of life we must recognize that there are segments of time in which certain things must be done. Solomon, the writer of Ecclesiastes (1:1), arranged these segments as "a time to . . ." as we shall presently see.

C. The wise child of God will place his "times" in the hand of God and act wisely in these times, thus giving him the right to be worthy of a place in God's world. Perhaps the poet was thinking of this when he wrote:

My times are in Thy hand;
My God, I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my soul
I leave entirely to Thy care.

—William F. Floyd

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

MOUNT OLIVE CALLS

(Continued from Page 7)

Raper, whom she remembered with affection from her student days. She recalled an incident which she says is typical of the relationship between Dr. Raper and the students at Mount Olive College.

"It was very difficult for me to adjust to all the pressures of being recently married, having to study, working part-time, and commuting. I became so discouraged just two months before graduation that I almost dropped out. Dr. Raper saw me sitting outside his office and noticed how depressed I was. He took time to stop and talk to me about the importance of my education. He encouraged me to keep trying." Perhaps because of this personal attention, Tammy assumed her new position as of Monday, August 4.

Tammy and her husband are both active in the youth work of Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, where Bryant serves as the pastor. She sings in the church choir and is also a teacher for the nursery Sunday school class. In addition, Tammy is a member of the woman's auxiliary.

MOUNT OLIVE HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 10)

Senior college goal was attainable and the general feeling on campus seems to be "We can do it so let us get on with the work."

Another major focus during faculty conferences was library development. Members of the faculty are being encouraged to work with the librarian in the development of the section of the library which relates to their instructional area. Currently, the College has in excess of 30,000 volumes but to become a four-year college our minimum goal is 50,000 volumes.

The Students

On Sunday afternoon, August 30, freshman students arrived and I think I never saw so much activity come to the campus so quickly.

After the students had checked into their rooms and enjoyed an outdoor picnic dinner with their parents, they assembled in Rodgers Chapel for an orientation and worship service conducted by the Rev. Frank Harrison, College Chaplain, and Dr. Thomas Johnson, dean of students. The service concluded with each freshman student given a Bible made possible by an anonymous donor.

All dormitory beds are filled and the overflow of students is being accommodated in the homes of faculty members.

Anyone who could be on the campus of Mount Olive College these days would immediately sense that the College is a good place to be and that it is moving "towards new marks of greatness."

One 1981 Mount Olive College graduate who brought his sister to enroll said to me, "If you will make this a four-year college I will enroll right now!"

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

Fifth Eastern District Youth for Christ Rally

The Fifth Eastern District Youth for Christ Rally will be held September 12, at 7:30 p.m., at First Woodrow Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, North Carolina. All churches are asked to be present at this rally.

Think About It . . .

Never attempt to bear more than one kind of trouble at a time. Some people try to bear three kinds: all they have had, all they now have, and all they expect to have.

Make Plans Now to Attend . . .

Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet

(Wives Are Invited Too!)

The banquet will be held Friday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m., at the downtown campus of Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. Mr. Linwood Smith, the general superintendent of the Sunday school program at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, will be the guest speaker. The cost of the meal will be $4 per person.

The banquet is sponsored by the North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

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The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative class work, fiberglass church steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so that we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.

While at the State Convention, be sure to visit the Free Will Baptist Press display. Mrs. Happy Taylor, manager of Kinston Bible and Bookstore, will be there to serve you. Copies of the proposed revision, *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the General Baptist Heritage),* will be located at the display.



Five Locations to Serve You

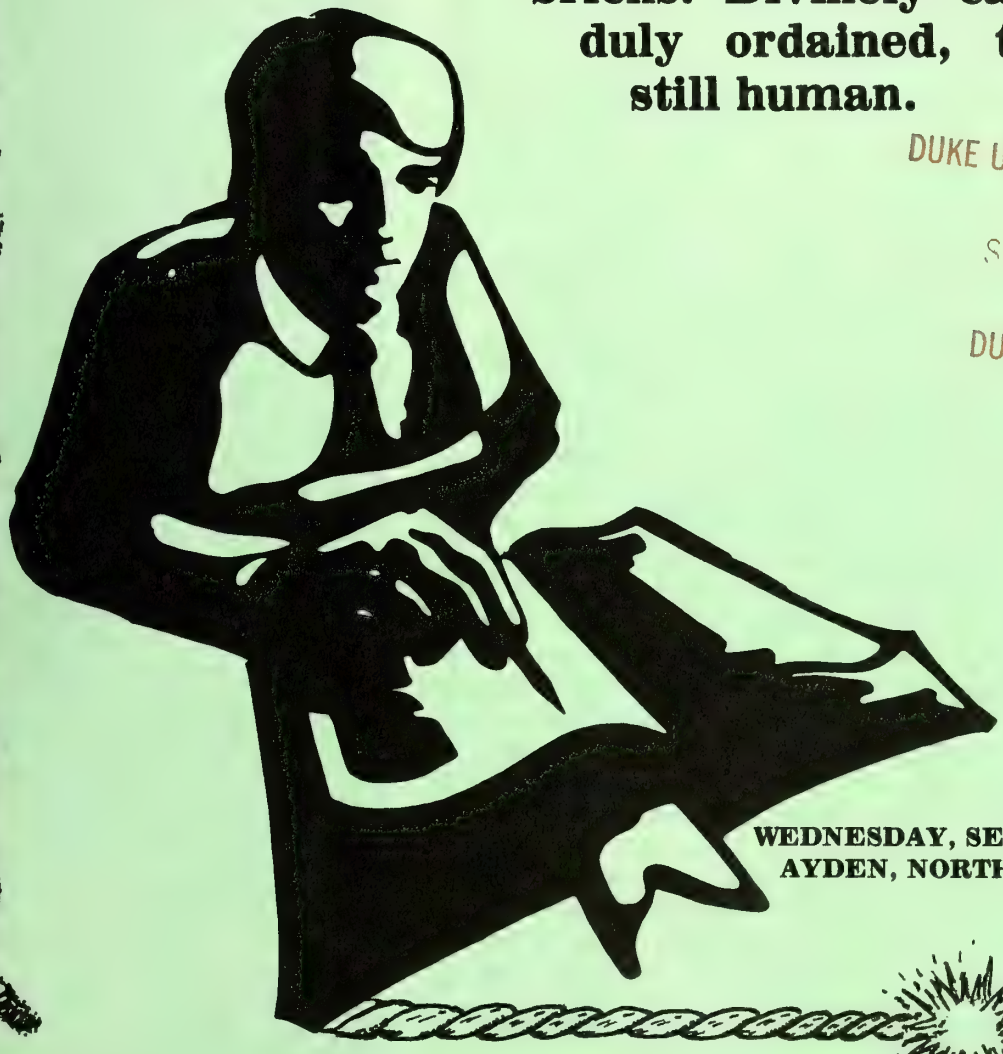
Ayden New Bern Smithfield
Wilson Kinston

F857W

The Free Will Baptist

Many ministers have given up their churches to teach school, sell cars, pump gas, or lay bricks. Divinely called and duly ordained, they are still human.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Burnout

Editorial

A door opens and shuts. The minister comes in and sighs, for another day is nearly over. An elderly couple has been given food, an alcoholic has received medical attention, clothes were taken to a family while he was en route to the hospital. Now there are several more visits to be made before bedtime. In the back of his mind are concerns about a family that recently left the church: he has taken their leaving personally. But he is tired now—he just doesn't feel like worrying about that group that has been complaining about his sermons . . . .

The minister mentioned above is suffering from "burnout"—a term coined to describe the physical, emotional, and spiritual depletion that most commonly strikes those in helping professions—police, nurses, counselors, social workers. **But,** the clergy run the greatest risk of suffering from the condition. (The Rev. Roy Oswald, a behavioral scientist and authority on clergy burnout, believes that one in every four ministers is a victim of burnout; another 25% are on their way.) They are the most susceptible because their profession defies a job description. They are expected to be pastor, prophet, marriage counselor, youth counselor, financier, and more—and if they try to do all this, they are bound to get hurt!

Ministers are involved with people and their tragedies daily; they can't help becoming emotionally involved. For the most part, they never know if they have done a good job or when they have done enough. Some complain about living a "schizo existence," claiming that their neighbors have no idea what they go through. Often they are considered buffoons, and the words "Hey Preach, make sure it doesn't rain on the picnic Saturday" serve to prove this. Many go into the ministry for deeply religious reasons, only to find themselves later managing a very large corporation made up of volunteers. Low salaries complicate the matter and have a demoralizing effect upon the clergyman; he feels professionally inferior.

Clergymen get so involved with people, they can't help feeling stress. For example, consider a serious illness. A physician is greatly involved too, but if and when a patient dies, his work is over. It is the minister who is left to pick up the pieces, to help put the family back together, a process that may take months.

Furthermore, ministers often work with insoluable problems. They cannot always see the results of their work. When they do not feel productive, they usually lose their self-esteem. This compounds the problem, for ministers are used to solving problems—not needing help with them. This role reversal makes coping quite difficult.

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Design by Jerry Lee Goff

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Volume 96 Number 35
September 16, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The Simple Life

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison



MOST people whom I know are too busy. It is a common experience to see people rushing in every direction, no one having time to contemplate or to speak slowly with friends. At worst, we become a hectic generation, always running to keep up or to maintain over-demanding schedules. We have many luxuries, we ride in fine cars, and we live in beautifully furnished homes, but what we do not have, in our civilization, is time to appreciate.

The fact that nearly all people in our particular culture are too busy is, indeed, a paradox. We have invented and produced numerous labor-saving devices, which might reasonably be expected to provide us with time, but somehow this expected consequence does not occur. We ought to have the time used by our ancestors to bring the water from the spring, to chop the firewood, to trim the lamp wick, to weave the cloth and so much more, but strangely the freedom purchased by mechanical skill appears to be lost. How can this be?

We understand part of the answer to this question when we realize that we tend to overschedule each day. Because we underestimate the time required for successive tasks, we undertake too many of them each day. Consequently, we are always running to catch up with events. If we were more realistic and more modest about our powers, we might profit by scheduling fewer enterprises each day. Life would be far better for all concerned if each person tried to do fewer things, with a chance to finish each before starting another, thereby achieving some peace of mind.

There are undoubtedly persons in our society who have time on their hands, but they are clearly a small minority, since for the majority, the insistent demands never seem to come to an end. The pile of unanswered letters is always too high; the engagements in the date book are too many; and every day ends too soon. The problem is not a matter of mechanics or of any externals of our civilization, but of our philosophy of life. We shall be helped, not by any mechanical device, but only by a clear decision to live more simply. The key is the discipline of simplicity, a point persuasively set forth by Richard Foster in his excellent book *Celebration of Discipline*. He begins his chapter on simplicity by the incisive three-word sentence, "Simplicity is freedom." The simplicity of which he writes, and which he practices, is "an inward reality that results in an *outward* life style."

We need to be clear, in our own minds, about the fundamental nature of simple living, which the gospel requires. We are not likely to be satisfied with a simpler standard of living unless we have found inner peace, which eliminates the constant struggle to possess more things. Much of the hectic nature of contemporary living arises from the constant escalation of ambition to possess, the terrible fact being that possessiveness is, by its intrinsic nature, insatiable. The man with a million dollars, far from being satisfied, wants more. The solution of his problem will come, if it comes at all, not by acquiring more, but by finding an inner peace which renders the hectic pace unnecessary.

Acceptance of the discipline of simplicity affects not merely our struggle for possession, but

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also the other aspects of existence. It affects, for example, the numbers of societies to which we belong. Millions belong to so many clubs that they rush from one to another, being deprived of the blessings of creative solitude. The great books sit on the shelves totally unread, partly because the owners are always attending meetings. If you rush from one meeting to another, there is not much likelihood that any of the meetings attended will be really meaningful. It is terrible to think of the wasted hours of men and women going through the motions of collective experience, without any real improvement in their lives.

Rational existence would mean that we resign from many of our public responsibilities, with the hope that the few which are retained may make a genuine difference in the world. If you belong to four clubs, and resign from three, you may find that the one connection which remains becomes, consequently, really valuable to you and to the world by your influence upon it. This moral advice applies to the life of the church as truly as it does to secular connections, because churches tend to increase the hectic nature of the lives of their members, by scheduling far too many events. One fatality is homelife. It hurts to listen to a man who says, "When we were little, Dad was always at a meeting." What a paradox if the church becomes the enemy of the very cause it espouses!

One of the most practical features of the teaching of Richard Foster on simplicity is his development of ten controlling principles, which each reader may contemplate with profit. The ten are as follows:

1. Buy things for their usefulness rather than their status.

2. Reject anything that is producing an addiction in you.

3. Develop a habit of giving things away.

4. Refuse to be propagandized by the custodians of modern gadgetry.

5. Learn to enjoy things without owning them.

6. Develop a deeper appreciation for the creation.

7. Look with a healthy skepticism at all "buy now, pay later" schemes.

8. Obey Jesus' instructions about plain, honest speech.

9. Reject anything that will breed the oppression of others.

10. Shun whatever would distract you from your main goal.

Though we honor those of Christian history who have become "plain people" by adopting outward expressions of simplicity, such as "plain garb," most of us realize that there is another way in which to demonstrate genuine inner freedom. Like Dr. Johnson, I do not think that a man who cannot get to Heaven in a green coat will get there any sooner in a grey one, and that is why I adopt no outward distinction. But I know at the same time, that the rejection of a stereotype does not, by itself, solve the problem. I know that we must strive consistently to find the real priority of our lives and let the consequences take care of themselves. The real priority, I have long believed, is to seek first the kingdom (Luke 12:31). Emphasis on a magnificent "yes" will give courage to utter "no" when simplicity requires it.

I am now 80 years old. This age fills me with wonder and gratitude. I have tried to fight a good fight, but I have not finished the course (2 Timothy 4:7). One of the most welcome rewards of my present age is that my life is far more simple than it once was. My life, thank God, is not hectic. I can enjoy the visits of those who come to see me; I can read books, not for any immediate need, but for the joy of encountering great minds. When my wife visited me in my library recently, she found me reading the poems of William Wordsworth. She was glad and so was I. I was looking again at Wordsworth's great line about "emotion recollected in tranquillity," and I came to realize that this is the proper standard of life, not merely for one who is 80 years of age, but for anyone who seeks to make his own life a really good one. The committed Christian has a great stake in simplicity of life.—Elton Trueblood

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Dear Lord,

I want to serve you so badly! I'm literally burning with the fever. I've been on vacation and I'm more ready than I've ever been. What I need now is an assignment. That's what I want to discuss with you.

I've been offered program chairperson for the women at church, but I'm hoping you'll agree that it's not quite right. They need a teacher badly in the Junior Department in the Sunday school, but I know too many of the children. Wild bunch if ever I saw one. (It's no wonder, though, considering the homes they come from.) I would love to help out in the nursery, but that would mean missing the morning worship service occasionally and I know you don't want me to do that. Besides, my children are too old for the nursery. The woman next door can't drive. She needs help with the groceries and she needs company, but she never lets go once she gets hold of you.

How about something different? No nursing homes please. I can't stand some of what I see in those places.

I know you'll think of something. I can hardly wait!

With all my love,
Ima Servant

THE REV. W. H. WILLIS HONORED

submitted by members of Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church



The Rev. W. H. Willis

On Sunday, August 16, the members of Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Dover, North Carolina, honored the Rev. W. H. Willis with a reception at 3 p.m., in the fellowship building. The event was held in appreciation of the service Mr. Willis rendered to the church as pastor, member, and friend—as well as to the denomination. Mr. Willis is on a sabbatical leave and is now serving Grants Chapel as supply pastor.

Guests and members were welcomed by the present pastor, the Rev. Robert Fussell, followed by a short devotion and prayer.

Members of the churches which Mr. Willis has pastored were recognized as well as members of the Examining Board, those ordained with him, other ministers and their wives. Mrs. Willis, his wife, and their son and daughter and their families were also recognized along with other special friends.

Mrs. Zilphia Powell, one of the older members of the church, presented Mr. Willis a plaque in appreciation of his services. Mrs. Betty Ormond presented a beautiful silk flower and bud vase to Mrs. Willis. Miss Tina Wetherington presented a gift from the league of the church to Mr. Willis. He was also remembered with many gifts from friends and other churches represented.

A portrait of Mr. Willis was presented to the church to be placed in the library.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Richardson greeted the guests on arrival. Mrs. Grace White presided at the guest book. Members of the woman's auxiliary served refreshments. The occasion was an enjoyable remembrance to everyone attending, and Mr. Willis states "most of all by him."

Mr. Willis, better known as "Dub," came to live in the Moseley's Creek Community in July, 1945, as the husband of Lovie Jane White, who was already an active member of the church. He immediately began attending all the church services and serving the church and community in every way possible. He was especially interested in the youth of the church, and soon became a Sunday school teacher of a class of boys. He later helped organize the Free Will Baptist League, which is still an active part of the church today. He also served as Sunday school superintendent for several years.

In June 1947, he answered the call into the ministry and was licensed by Moseley's Creek church; the Rev. Randall Bennett was pastor at the time. He was ordained October 27, 1948, by the ordaining council of the Eastern Conference at the Bridgeton church.

Mr. Willis has since pastored the following churches: Pilgrim's Home, Rock of Zion, Dublin Grove, Grants Chapel, New Haven, Core Point Chapel, Parker's Chapel, Rooty Branch, Beulaville, Snow Hill, Friendship (in Greene County), Grimsley, Sweet Gum Grove, Bethlehem, Pleasant Hill (in Pitt County), Gray Branch, Hugo, and Piney Grove (in Duplin County).

There were times when he was serving four churches at one time—one Sunday per month at each church; then there was a change to half-time services; and for several years now, he has served one church, full-time. There was even a time (for about two years) that he preached at five churches per month. He preached on Sunday afternoons at Core Point Chapel (after baptizing 17 converts from a revival meeting) and later organized them into a church.

Time or space will not permit listing, even if it was known, the number of times he has visited the sick in homes, hospitals, nursing homes and other places; nor the times he has visited the bereaved, troubled, aged, lonely; or counseled with those who needed a friend and encouragement. He has always been a witness of the Lord Jesus to those in need of God's saving power.

It is not known how many union meetings, conferences, state conventions and other meetings he has attended during his years of ministry.

He has served on the Examining Board of the Eastern Conference for 11 years and is now the secretary of the board.

He has a record of having baptized 420, married 206 couples, conducted 304 funerals, and preached over 4,262 sermons.

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS & NOTES

PALMER MEMORIAL CHURCH HELPS FEED HUNGRY



Some members of Palmer Memorial Church with the loaves for the hungry

Recently the Rev. Dewey C. Boling, the pastor of Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Garner, North Carolina, gave out some love loaves which he had gotten from the Foreign Mission Board to use in raising money for the hungry people in the world. The pastor's grandson, Brandon Wall, saw one of the loaves and wanted to know what they were all about. After Mrs. Boling explained to him, Brandon said that he wanted to help feed the hungry too. So the next day he brought the loaf back filled to the brim. When his grandmother asked him how he got it filled up so soon, he replied that he had taken all of his money out of his savings bank and put it into the loaf. This was a very touching thing for a six-year-old to have this much compassion for the hungry people in the world.



Brandon Wall

Thus through the efforts of this little boy and the young and old of Palmer Memorial church, when the loaves were opened at a special service, the amount in a check for $533.15 was sent to the Mission Board to be used in feeding the hungry through World Vision.

A few weeks later the little boy who had compassion for the hungry told his mother that he wanted to go up to the altar and get saved, so she went with him and he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour.

Calvary Church to Have Revival Services

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, will hold its fall revival September 21 through September 25. Services will begin nightly at 7:30 preceded by prayer rooms at 7:10 p.m. The Rev. Robert May from Ahoskie, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker for the week and will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. John Boykin. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Upcoming Events At Ayden Church

Revival services will be held at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina, beginning Monday, September 21, and will continue through Friday, September 25, at 7:30 p.m.

The Rev. Ronnie Mohn, pastor of Cape Colony Mission, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music presented each night. The pastor, the Rev. David T. Ricks, and the congregation give everyone a special invitation to come and share in this revival.

Homecoming will be observed by the church on Sunday, September 27. All former members and friends of the church are invited to attend. The pastor will be bringing the homecoming message. Shortly after the morning service, lunch will be served in the fellowship hall. Immediately

after the lunch, there will be a gospel sing featuring various singers.

Revival Services to Be At Mount Zion Church

A revival meeting will begin at the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church of Roper, North Carolina, on Sunday night, September 20, and will continue through Friday night, September 25. The Rev. James B. Hardee will be the guest speaker for the week. The pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton, and the church membership extend to everyone a special invitation to attend.

Folkstone Church People Go on Retreat

On August 16, 1981, forty-eight campers left Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church, near Holly Ridge, North Carolina, on a retreat to Morrow Mountain at Albemarle, North Carolina. The camping party consisted of thirty-two YFA members, their leaders, some parents and the pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker and his family.

On Tuesday, they enjoyed an outing at Carowinds. Each night services were held around the campfire. These services proved to be very fruitful as ten young people accepted Christ as their Saviour and one rededicated his life.

Due to tropical storm Dennis, they had to return home wet and earlier than planned but their spirits were certainly not dampened.

The following week, twenty-one AFC members were taken on a trip to Wilmington, North Carolina, by Mrs. Kathy Parker, Mrs. Linda Parker and Mrs. Connie Rochelle. They enjoyed a visit to the zoo and then had a picnic and games at the park.

Revival in Progress At First Church, Goldsboro

Revival services are in progress through Friday, September 18, at First Free Will Baptist Church Goldsboro, North Carolina. The evangelist for the services is the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Special music is being featured each evening. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the remainder of the services. The Rev. Norman Ard is pastor.

Sneads Ferry Church to Have Fall Revival

Sneads Ferry Free Will Baptist Church, Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, will have its fall revival, September 21 through September 25. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Chris Singleton, pastor of Beulaville church. The pastor of the church is the Rev. O. B. Taylor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Annual Harvest Sale for Winterville Church

The Christian Fellowship Class of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, will have its annual harvest sale at the Winterville Fire Station, Winterville, North Carolina, on September 19, beginning at 9 a.m.

The YFA will begin washing cars at 9:30 a.m. Hot dogs, drinks, baked goods, and arts and crafts will be available all day. Chicken pastry will be the main dish at supper.

The gospel sing which begins at 6 p.m. will feature the Gospel Chargers and the Psalms. At 7 p.m. an auction sale will conclude the day's activities. Everyone is urged to come and enjoy the fun and fellowship. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

Friendship Church Has Field Day

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church YFA, Farmville, North Carolina, sponsored a field day for all ages at the church on Saturday, August 29. Activities included a fifty-yard dash, sack race, an obstacle course, the broad jump, and a tug-of-war in which everyone had a pull.

After the events, a hot dog supper was enjoyed by everyone. Johnny and Jo Ann Lewis are the YFA leaders.

Revival Services to Be At First Church of Tarboro

First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, North Carolina, and its pastor, the Rev. O. B. Jones, cordially invite everyone to its revival services September 21 through September 25, at 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each evening. The Rev. Graham Lane from New Bern, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 27. Lunch will be served at noon and the public is cordially invited.

Revival Services at Micro Church

Revival services will begin on Monday night, September 21, at Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, North Carolina. The Rev. Cedric Pierce, pastor of Black Jack church, will be the visiting evangelist.

Services will begin each evening at 7:30. There will be special singing each night with the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, pastor, leading the service. Everyone is invited to attend and pray for these services.

Homecoming and Revival At Hickory Grove Church

Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bethel, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 20. A singspiration is scheduled for the afternoon beginning at 2 p.m. with the Oak Grove Boys.

Revival services will begin on Monday, September 21, and

(Turn the Page)

will continue through Friday, September 25, at 7:45 each evening. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Bruce Jones, pastor of British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina. There will be special singing.

The pastor, the Rev. Leon Earl Harris, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

Pleasant Grove Church Honors Retiring Pastor



The Rev. and Mrs. James Lupton and Guy Bedford, Chairman of the Deacon Board

On Sunday, June 28, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, North Carolina, held a special service honoring its retiring pastor, the Rev. James Lupton. Mr. Lupton has served the church for eight years from July, 1973, until July, 1981. During these years he made a great contribution through his leadership and guidance. The church was blessed by his ministry.

Following the morning service a plaque of appreciation and a love offering was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Lupton by the church to express appreciation for their service to the people of Pleasant Grove church during these years.

Pine Level Youth Raise Money

The Youth of Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church participated in several bake sales during the summer months. The bake sales, held in downtown Pine Level, proved to be a great success. The total amount raised was $285. The proceeds went toward purchasing a clothes dryer for the church parsonage.

On Sunday morning, August 16, the regular Youth Sunday was observed. Members of the youth Sunday school department, under the direction of Tim Crocker, participated in the opening assembly. During this time, the youth and Mrs. Angie Thompson, the leader of the bake sale project, presented the money to the church. A special "thank you" was issued to everyone who baked items and contributed money to make this project a success.

Pleasant Grove Church Honors Incoming Pastor

On Sunday, July 5, 1981, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, North Carolina, welcomed its new pastor, the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, and his family. The people of Pleasant Grove church are looking forward to being led by Mr. Taylor as the church strives to be of service in the community.



The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby R. Taylor, and Stephen; and Guy Bedford, Chairman of the Deacon Board

Following the evening service a reception was held to welcome Mr. Taylor, his wife, and son.

(News and Notes continued on Page 15)

NEWS FROM CRAGMONT

by Rick Watson

"No news is good news" could be what you're thinking about Cragmont for 1981 since we have not entered any dying, desperate pleas for help this year. And, for the most part, thanks to your support, the first eight months of this year have been great for Cragmont.

Monetarily we have had a good year thus far in spite of some setbacks and unexpected expenditures. In February the main building suffered $2,400 in water damage, none of which was paid by insurance. The largest expenditure we have made this year has been for a 30-pound washer, 50-pound dryer and 300 sets of bed linens; altogether, with installation, costing approximately $7,500. However, it should be pointed out that last year Cragmont spent $3,600 for linen service and at the end of the year we still did not own sheets or equipment to clean any. With expected increases in costs of linen service it is quite apparent that this expense will be paid for by the end of next year. Also, we changed insurance carriers in April which has resulted in a savings of $2,700 per year in premiums. With extra expenses of about $8,000 we are pleased to find ourselves with about the same amount of money on hand that we had this time last year and thereby feel the first eight months have been great.

As for the payment of the main building, we now have $15,500 toward the November 14, 1981, payment of $43,000. We are not alarmed by this, because we know what you did last year. When we let you know what we needed you responded generously. Being in about the same shape as last year, we again ask for your support both monetarily and prayerfully. The payment is due in about sixty days. We are confident you will pull us through as you always have.



CRISIS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

submitted by Joe Ingram

An African proverb says: "When the elephants fight, the grass gets trampled." This is what's happening in the Horn of Africa today. Those who get trampled are the sick and the weak—those who cannot defend themselves against the cruel, cold implements of modern warfare.

"Crisis in the Horn of Africa," a powerful new documentary film about the tragic effect of prolonged drought and warfare on the lives of millions of East Africans, conveys this tragic story.

On the Kenya-Uganda border, viewers can see what happens to local villagers when the cattle rustlers use guns, and the locals have only bows and arrows. Dramatic footage, shot only moments after a raid, puts an international conflict into human perspective.

Viewers can walk the barren sands of Las Dure camp in northern Somalia, where 76,000 refugees must survive on an average of 400 calories per day. Here, where there is no sanitation at all, World Vision medical teams care for the sick and the dying—with special concern for trying to save the children.

"Crisis in the Horn of Africa" tells the moving stories of mothers and children. One mother didn't have enough food for both her twins, so she had to let one child die. And another mother couldn't muster the courage to tell her son that his father would never return from the desert war.

The film provides a sensitive, yet hard-hitting Christian perspective of nations—and individuals—at a crossroads of survival.

"Crisis in the Horn of Africa," produced by World Vision (a non-profit Christian humanitarian organization committed to helping the world's needy people), is available through the North Carolina Board of Foreign Missions. For more information, contact the Rev. Joe Ingram by writing to him at Box 979, Goldsboro, NC 27530; or by calling (919) 734-5946.

A moving, first-person report from Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. True stories of mothers, children and whole families who struggle daily just to stay alive.

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DR. RAPER ADDRESSES STUDENTS AT MOC CONVOCATION

The official opening of the thirtieth academic year at Mount Olive College was observed last week with a convocation for students and faculty at which President W. Burkette Raper spoke. Using as his subject, "The College Experience," President Raper stated that the purpose of the annual convocation was to bring together the College family for the purpose of considering what it means to seek an education at Mount Olive College.

Instead of addressing himself to some philosophical or theological subject, Dr. Raper said that at this convocation he wanted to say something to students that would help them in their experiences at Mount Olive College.

Dr. Raper recalled his own freshman year at Duke University—an experience which helped him to develop an educational philosophy of opportunity for all worthy students. The president remembered that he came from the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex to Duke University where he worked in the cafeteria. As a work/study student, this freshman from Middlesex learned that for each meal he ate, he was expected to work one hour in the University Food Services. Dr. Raper added that he expects all students at Mount Olive College to work hard, study, and maintain high standards of citizenship and conduct.

As a student, Dr. Raper said that he learned basically seven skills and qualities from his college experience: to read, to think, to write, to have self-discipline, to respect others, to appreciate beauty and order, and to persevere. He recommended these qualities to the students enrolled at Mount Olive College.

Dr. Raper continued by explaining that for him, college was a spiritual as well as an academic experience. At Duke he learned "that there is no conflict between sound learning and true religion. I learned that instead of a conflict between Christianity and science, that science helps to reveal the greatness and majesty of God.

"As children, we see the earth as flat, the sky as a dome, the sun and moon as small objects circling above us, the place where we live as the center of the universe. But as we grow up and learn more, we give up this childhood view of the physical order." In college, said Dr. Raper, students are challenged to grow up in their religion by purging their faith of unexamined ideas and by learning that true worship is an experience with God.

The president concluded by saying that his college experience changed his life and opened up new horizons, new opportunities, and higher goals by providing him with the opportunity for a fuller life. He ended his address by saying to the students, "I believe that here, at Mount Olive College you, too, can have an experience that will change and enrich your life for as long as you live."

WORKSHOP PLANNED

Beginning Monday, September 21, a workshop for lay leaders entitled "Methods and Techniques of Teaching Sunday School" will be taught at Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, by Mrs. Dianne B. Riley. The course will be taught on four successive Monday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m.: September 21, 28, October 5, 12. Refreshments will be served.

Some of the topics which will be covered in the workshop are: the traits of a good Sunday school teacher, the developmental stages of Sunday school pupils, the methodology of teaching the Sunday school lesson, and the behavioral objectives of the Sunday school lesson.

The workshop is sponsored by the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College, a continuing education program for ministers and church workers in the Free Will Baptist church.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, on Sunday, September 20, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Gary Bailey.

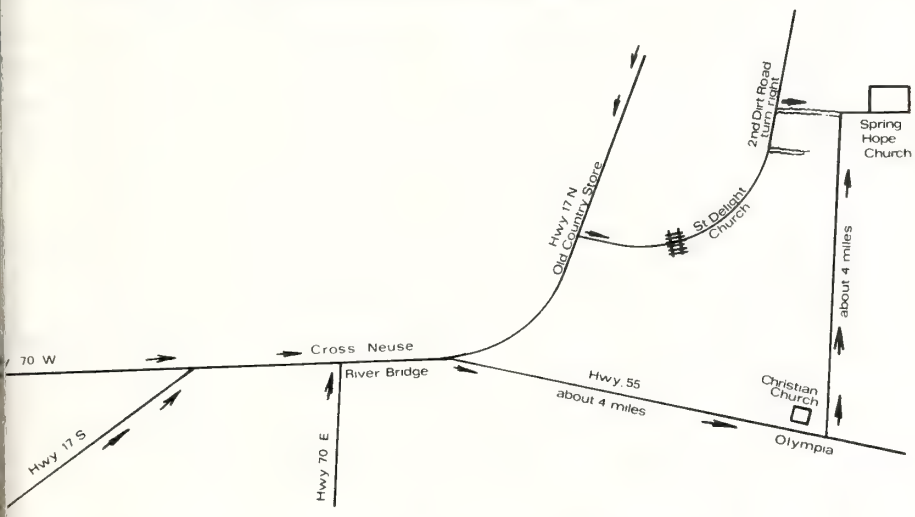
Renew your FWB subscription during September at current prices.

AUXILIARY NOTES

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention meets September 24, at Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church near Bridgeton, North Carolina. Vice presidents, encourage all your members to attend our convention. Each member is important. When we all work together in harmony and love, we can accomplish much in the service of our Lord.

Pray for our convention. See you there!



Directions to Spring Hope church are as follows:

Those coming from 70 West, 70 East, Highway 17 South: come to New Bern, cross Neuse River Bridge, turn right at first stoplight after bridge, take Highway 55 to Olympia (about 4 miles), turn left at Broad Creek Christian Church and follow paved road. At the end of paved road is the Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church. Those coming from Pamlico County, turn right at Olympia. Those coming from Highway 17 North, turn before you get to Bridgeton. Turn left in front of "Old Country Store"; go over railroad tracks, pass St. Delights Free Will Baptist Church. Go straight and take the second dirt road to the right which takes you to Spring Hope church.

Mrs. Versie Baldree
Vice President
Eastern District

Christmas in September!

See Page 16 for details.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Ruby Jones

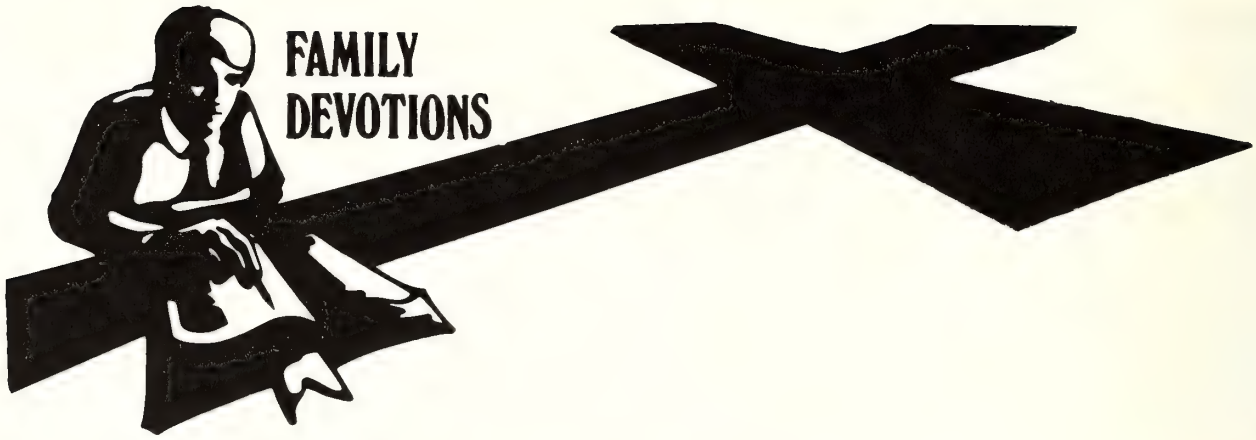
It is with pleasure we pause to honor one of the ladies of our auxiliary of Daly's Chapel as auxiliary woman of the year. The lady we honor is one who is always ready and willing to do what she can for her church and its progress. She, like the rest of us, has many things to do to keep her busy at her home, but she is never so busy that she can't find time to do things that need to be done for the church. Many times she is cleaning and doing things to make the church better all alone.

Her love for her Lord and her church, as well as her fellowman, makes her willing and ready to do what she can in whatever capacity she is called on to serve. She is a very unselfish person. To know her is to love her.

As we honor this one, we would like to read a portion of Proverbs 31, which seems most fitting for this occasion.

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that she hath no need of spoil. She will do him good, and not evil all the days of her life. . . . She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household . . . She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 3

AN UNASHAMED WORKMAN

Said Wallace E. Johnson, President of Holiday Inns and one of America's most successful builders: "I always keep on a card in my billfold the following verses and refer to them frequently: 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened' (Matthew 7:7, 8).

"These verses are among God's greatest promises. Yet they are a little one-sided. They indicate a philosophy of receiving but not of giving. One day as my wife, Alma, and I were seeking God's guidance for a personal problem, I came across the following verse which has since been a daily reminder to me of what my responsiblity as a businessman is to God: 'Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth' (2 Timothy 2:15).

"Since then I have measured my actions against the phrase: 'A workman that needeth not to be ashamed.'

"Like other Christians who at times grope for the truth, I go off the track and get so involved with problems of loans, unions and balance sheets that I forget the Lord. Sometimes Alma wakes me up or occasionally the Lord will get through to me, and then I face up to the demands of the verse: 'Study to shew thyself approved unto God.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

How different everything is with God's children when they have God's approving smile upon them! They should have but one fear—the fear of incurring God's disapproval.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 34

"O TASTE AND SEE!"

Anna Freud, the daughter of Sigmund Freud was asked, "Why do students riot and demonstrate?"

She replied, "The real reason is that fundamentally students are empty and alienated, and they have a burning quest for reality!"

To all sincere seekers for reality, God gives this challenging appeal, "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him" (Psalm 34:8).

PRAYER THOUGHT

A great deal of what we see, depends on what we are looking for!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Mark 5:1-20

"GO, TELL"

Said Billy Graham, "Sherwood Eddy interviewed twenty-five young Communists in Moscow one day and asked each one how many hours he gave to the party each day. Not one of them gave less than three hours daily in extolling the alleged virtues of Communism. Some of them gave as much as nine hours each day, witnessing for their beliefs.

"Commented Eddy, 'Can it be that Karl Marx has more witnesses in this generation than Jesus Christ?' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

Thank God for millions of His children who obey in sustained manner the command, "Go . . . tell . . . how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee" (Mark 5:19).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 14

UNFIT FOR EDEN

Under the caption "What Makes Man Unfit for Eden?" the *Austin American-Statesman* editorialized: "In Paris, intelligent men dispute over the shape of a conference table while soldiers and peasants continue to die in Vietnam.

"In Nigeria, little children continue to starve while their fathers wage a bitter and bloody war over who is to rule them.

"In the Middle East, Arab and Jew continue to kill each other in a quarrel over the same land that was watered with the blood of Crusader and Turk, Jew and Roman, Persian

and Babylonian centuries before.

"In America and Russia, billions continue to be expended to maintain the means whereby each country may slaughter hundreds of millions of each other's population.

"Throughout the world, disputations between individuals and between nations, hatred, strife, prejudice and fear ravage the human heart worse than any virus ravages the body!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

May the globe girdling era of tranquility, envisioned by the ancient prophet, come soon: "The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing" (Isaiah 14:7).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—Psalm 61

"GRIN AND BEAR IT!"

A pastor asked those present in a mid-week prayer meeting to stand and quote their favorite Bible verse.

An elderly woman, who had only a little knowledge of the Bible, stood and stoically said, "My favorite verse is, 'Grin and bear it!' "

There is no such Bible verse, but when the "fiery trial" assails God's children, they may submissively "rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is (their) reward in heaven" (Matthew 5:12).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Long ago the psalmist trustfully said, "When my heart is overwhelmed . . . lead me to the rock that is higher than I" (Psalm 61:2).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—1 John 4

WHAT GOD DID

Sir Oliver Lodge said, "Men of culture no longer bother about their sins."

Thank God that long ago He was bothered about the sins of mankind and did something about it! He sent the Saviour "to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

You can often choose the sin you want to practice, but you can't choose the consequences that result.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—2 John 5

MORBID SUSPICION

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale told of a major league pitcher who was so jealous of his wife that he could think of nothing else. He would go to the phone in the clubhouse between innings and call home to make sure that she was there and was not out indulging in an extramarital affair. The obsession was ruining him as an outstanding athlete.

Dr. Peale's consulting psychiatrists at the clinic determined that the man's consuming obsession was due to premarital sex relations himself, followed by a sense of guilt and self-condemnation that built up into morbid suspicions of the married partner.

Some ruin their chance for lifelong marital happiness by disobeying the changeless command, "Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14). Some sacrifice the permanent on the altar of the temporary.

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is one thing to praise discipline and another to submit to it.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

THE BOOK CORNER

by DeWayne Eakes

Schmidt, Paul F. *Coping With Difficult People.* Westminister Press, 1980. Christian Care Books edited by Wayne E. Oates.

Paul F. Schmidt is a clinical psychologist in a private practice, and a visiting professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

"Watch out for him—he's a real character." "She is just a bad personality." "I can't exactly put a finger on it, but he really bugs me somehow." "She seems to be comfortable with herself, but I find her really hard to be with." "I just can't seem to get close to him—I don't think anybody can." "There's just no feeling there." These are the typical reactions to people whom mental health professionals describe as having "character disorders" (p. 11).

About one-third of all Americans come in contact every day with persons who have "character disorders." The author gives concrete suggestions on how to deal with your own feelings and frustrations and how to get along with these difficult people.

Dr. Schmidt examines about thirty different disorders including persons who are paranoid, obsessive, compulsive and manipulative. He offers practical suggestions on dealing with the chronic liar, the gossip, the drunken driver, and those unwilling to work. This book helps break through the masks behind which difficult people hide.

The author's suggestions are spiritually sensitive and concrete. This book is very informative and usable by the pastor who is genuinely concerned with a ministry to the alienated and hurting saints. This book is available through our Free Will Baptist bookstores.

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 27

THE EVERLASTING GOD

Lesson Text: Isaiah 40:21-23, 25-31
Memory Verse: Isaiah 40:31

I. INTRODUCTION

Our studies are taking us through the Bible in long leaps. We began with creation, and then leaped all the way to about 1000 B.C. to David, who kept his father's sheep and was himself kept by Jehovah. It was a shorter leap then to David's son who experimented and found that all the works of man are vanity, while Jehovah and His principles are steadfast and secure. Now for Lesson 4 we leap over two more centuries to the time of Isaiah.

Solomon feared that he might leave his great empire to a fool (Ecclesiastes 2:18, 19), and that was what he did. The empire fell apart, and there were two little nations instead (1 Kings 12:1-19). King Hezekiah was ruling in the south country when the Assyrians destroyed the northern nation. God then saved the south by a miracle, but revealed to Isaiah that it would later fall before Babylon.

A prophecy of the end of the south country is seen in Isaiah 39:5-7. Then Chapter 40 begins what is sometimes called the book of comfort. "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God" (Isaiah 40:1). To comfort His people God gave two promises. First, He would bring them back to their own land after their captivity in Babylon. Second, in future centuries He would come to redeem them. To assure the fulfillment of those promises, the prophecy sings of the greatness of Jehovah. He is far, far above the nations of the world (Isaiah 40:12-17) and totally different from the idols of the heathen (Isaiah 40:18-20).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Dr. Harry A. Ironsides has called Isaiah a miniature Bible. He points out that there are sixty-six books in the Bible and there are sixty-six chapters in the Book of Isaiah. The Bible has two major sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament; and Isaiah has two major sections. These divisions in Isaiah are so evident that some have referred to a First and Second Isaiah. The Old Testament has thirty-nine books and the first section of Isaiah has thirty-nine chapters; the New Testament has twenty-seven books and the second section of Isaiah has twenty-seven chapters. Indeed there are many comparisons that make Isaiah look like a miniature Bible!

B. When we come to the chapter from which our printed portion is taken, a new section of Isaiah begins. The opening word of the chapter gives the keynote of this whole section: "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God" (Isaiah 40:1). Because of these words this has been called the comfort section of the book. This word of hope was spoken in view of the approaching Babylonian captivity which had been announced in the preceding chapter (39:6, 7).

C. God calls His fainting, failing weary people to consider who He is, to realize that no matter how events go upon earth, Jehovah is the same changeless, unwearied God.

D. Dr. James Leo Green, in his expository studies in the prophecy of Isaiah called *God Reigns* gives us the following pertinent statement on this great fortieth chapter of Isaiah: "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God! The call is *urgent*—note the imperative and the repetition of the imperative for emphasis. The call is *constant*—the verb rendered 'saith' is in the imperfect tense, a frequentative imperfect, denoting repeated or continual action: 'Your God is saying over and over.' The call is *compassionate*—'Speak tenderly to Jerusalem' is literally, 'Speak up around the heart of Jerusalem'; it is a word of wooing, as in the way of a man with a maid (cf. Hosea 2:14). To 'comfort' is not so much to soothe as to strengthen. God's call to his servant(s) is to impart strength to his people."

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our great passage for today is taken from the prophecy of Isaiah. Chapter 40 through the rest of the book relates the visions God gave to the prophet concerning the things which would take place *after* the Babylonian Captivity was over.

B. The passage for today gives Isaiah's estimate of the immutable power and greatness of Jehovah, and how through prayer and patient waiting upon Him the people would once again, after seventy years of painful sojourn in a strange land, know the blessing of being in the will of God. There would be strength for their weariness, hope for their despair, and compassion beyond expression.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Burnout shows up in various ways: lethargy, running out of creative ideas, withdrawal from the public, a feeling of being at the end of one's resources, a radical change in eating and sleeping habits, ineffectiveness on the job, cynicism, sarcasm—even excessive drinking "to deaden the pain." These characteristics are sometimes diagnosed by congregations as laziness, at which time they apply more pressure—only to make matters worse.

This condition has led many clergymen to suicide. Others have given up their churches to teach school, sell cars, pump gas, or lay bricks. The ministry is no longer seen as being a prestigious profession. Burnout victims wish to be craftsmen "where they can create honest work, honest products that stand and live forever."

A gradual process, burnout may be cured in its earliest stages by a good vacation. When the condition worsens, it should be treated professionally. A total cure demands a rethinking of one's priorities and minimizing stressful conditions. A day off, vacations, sabbaticals, courses in nonrelated subjects, and regular vigorous exercise help tremendously. Most important of all, ministers need a strong, constant support system—preferably composed of family, colleagues, and congregation members themselves.

Ministers need to be told when they are on the right track. They need to feel loved and appreciated. Even though they are divinely called and duly ordained, they are only human.

WILLIS HONORED

(Continued from Page 5)

It has often been said that "behind every successful man is a good woman," and no less can be said of Mrs. Willis, better known as Jane. She has been a wonderful helpmate as wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She is an inspiration to all with her smile, humor and loyalty in serving as the pastor's wife. Life has not always been easy for her, as she has not only seen the good, but the strife; and not just the joy, but also the sorrows. She has shared burdens, heartaches, labors, and still offered love and encouragement in times of need.

Truly these are the kind of dedicated servants of God the Free Will Baptist church needs today. The members of Mose ey's Creek church pray that God will continue to bless Mr. and Mrs. Willis and use them for the furtherance of God's kindgom.

AUXILIARY NOTES

(Continued from Page 11)

by night . . . . She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household, for all her household are clothed with scarlet . . . . Strength and honour are her clothing, and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates" (vv. 10-12, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 25-31).

Ruby, we as members of this auxiliary of Daly's Chapel, would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your services, love, and understanding you have given us through the years. We feel as Proverbs 31:30 tells us that you are "a woman that feareth the LORD, and should be praised." May God continue to bless you, so you can serve Him faithfully in the future, as you have in the past. Ruby, we love and appreciate you and are happy to honor you as our auxiliary woman of the year.

Daly's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary

COMING EVENTS

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 24—The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention, Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, near Bridgeton

September 26—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

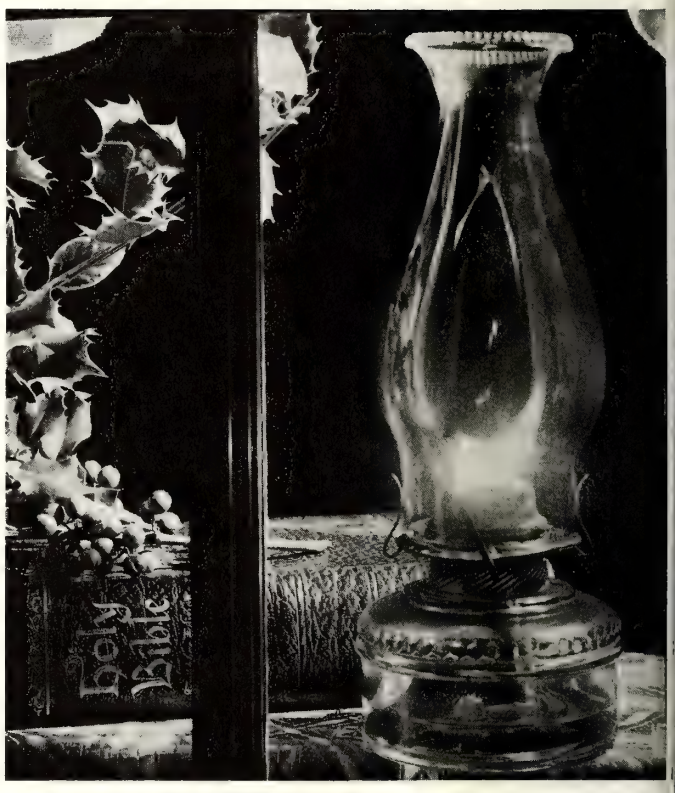
NEWS AND NOTES

Upcoming Events at Pleasant Hill Church

Revival services will be held at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Grimesland, North Carolina, September 21 through September 25. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Henry Armstrong will be the evangelist.

On September 27, the church will observe its annual homecoming. The Prescott Family will be featured singers for the morning and afternoon services. The Rev. C. F. Bowen is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

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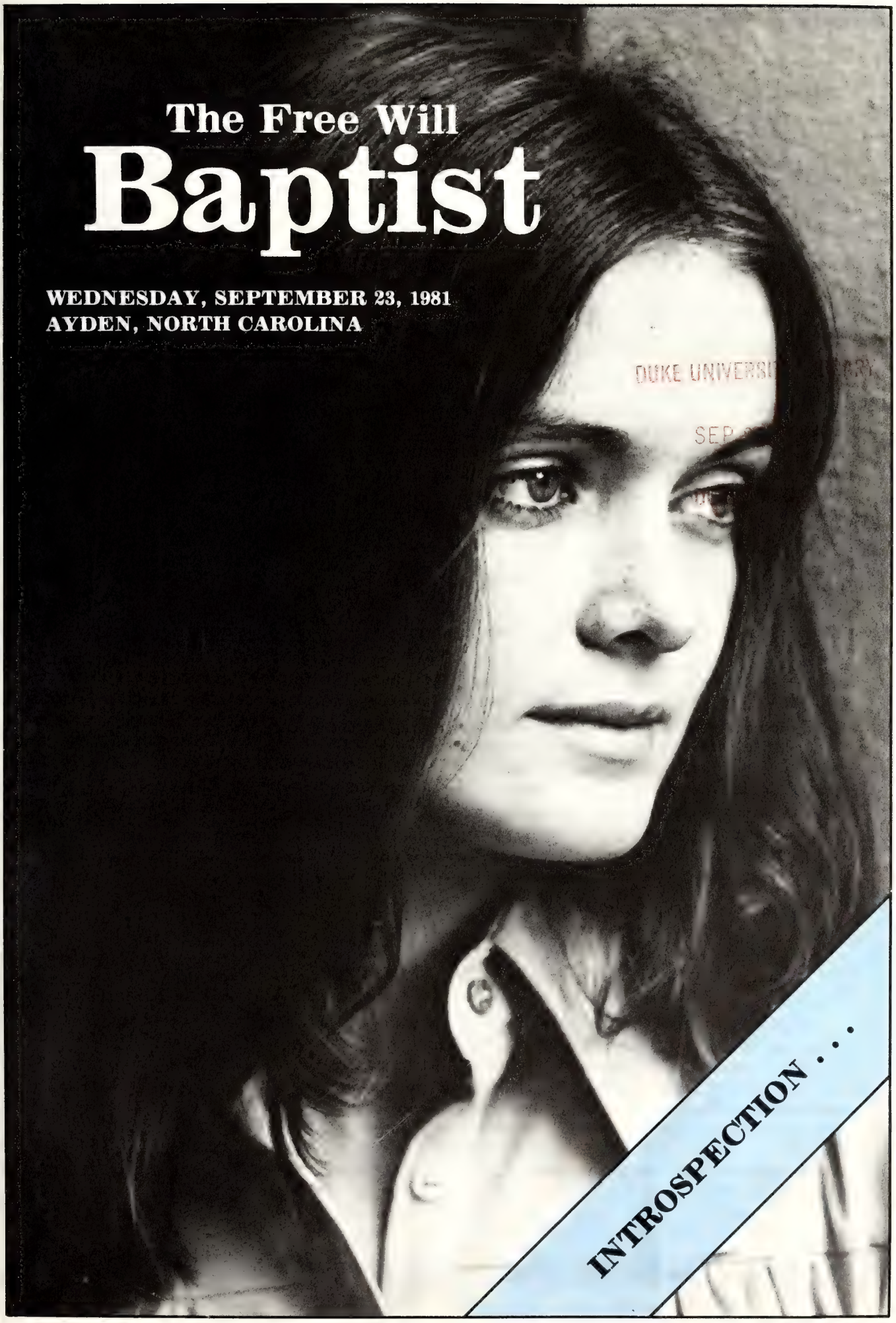
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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SEP



INTROSPECTION . . .

A Time for Self-Examination

The gentleman continually shifted his weight from foot to foot. He cast sharp glances at the other check-out lines in hopes of finding one where his wait might not be as long (we all know the line we're not in always moves faster). His whole being radiated impatience and I could hardly keep from laughing, for he would shake his head, mumble in frustration, bite his lips, and then sigh in disgust. It was easy to tell that the man did not understand why he (of all people) had to stand in line; all he had were a few grocery items.

A living example, the gentleman was perhaps the epitome of the dictionary definition of impatience: "uneasy, intolerant, and unwilling to be kept waiting." He and I completed shopping at the same time, but he was still waiting impatiently in the "eight items or less 'express lane' " when I paid my bill and pushed my cart full of groceries out of the store. How ironic!

Hardly anyone today sees the necessity of patience; few believe it to be desirable. Society as a whole is more impressed with speed, efficiency, convenience, and immediate results. As a result, whenever we are forced to wait, we become intolerable. You know what I'm talking about—few things **annoy** us more than traffic jams, bureaucratic "red tape," or a letter that does not arrive when we want it to!

Biblical writers admonish us to be patient; but surrounded as we are by the press of contemporary living, it becomes one of the biggest struggles we ever face. We admire punctuality, value good organization and time management, and condemn ourselves when we procrastinate or are late. We expect "on-the-spot, up-to-date" media coverage, and even praise students who hurry through school. Our bent toward impatience can even be seen in the church; we like to see rapid growth in the congregation, admire those under whose ministry numerous conversions take place, and get impatient when spiritual growth is slow.

How do we handle our tendencies toward impatience? How can we stay relaxed and unruffled even though we are in a hurry? By changing our attitudes and the way we look at life. What **do** we gain when we are angry and uncooperative? What is ever accomplished by our worrying?

The next time you are caught in a traffic jam, instead of letting your stomach tighten, your muscles tense up, and your irritation grow—tell yourself that you're caught in traffic, there's nothing you can do about it, and that you might as well relax. Such a realization has a calming effect on one's whole being. Criticizing others and complaining about circumstances (especially those over which we have no control), do nothing but get us stirred up with anger and bogged down in bitterness.

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Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Let God Put the Squeeze on You

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

SOME sociologists are calling this the evangelical era. Recently I've been thinking about some other terms. Like the decade of deluged disciples. Or the period of waterlogged witnesses. Or the time of sated saints.

For sure, no people in any place at any time have ever had more opportunities for growing in the faith than we have. Just look around you. Religious radio. Religious television networks. Bible study groups. Neighborhood prayer meetings. Spontaneous conversations in unlikely social situations about what my mother called "spiritual things." More religious books than ever. Conferences, retreats, congresses, festivals, rallies, seminars. All adding up to an unparalleled store of information available to believers.

But since so much is happening to us, why isn't more happening because of us? With all that input, where is the output? Agreeing that many things are being accomplished by the commitment of a few, I still have the uncomfortable feeling that a great deal more is going in than is coming out.

I observe an attitude which says that watching, listening, feeling, absorbing are our primary Christian responsibilities. We are terrific watchers and listeners. Non-participative forms of worship, in which ministers and choirs perform for us, have bred a generation of spectators. We are also big on feeling and absorbing, and even while we reject some of the more bizarre forms of group therapy, we have developed our own styles of spiritual navel-contemplation that makes us more narcissistic with each passing fad.

No, I'm not minimizing learning as a critical factor in Christian maturing. But knowledge is to be used. Hearers of the word who don't become doers, the Bible says, are like a man who sees his image in a mirror and then forgets what he looks like (James 1:22-24).

With some reasonableness we pilgrims can argue that we have arrived at this point in our faith only with much struggle, and who is to say when we know enough, have enough, believe enough to return something to the reservoir? So we go back to the same seminars and lectures (repeaters even get a discount) year after year for more input.

In our zeal for spiritual self-improvement (nothing wrong with that, per se), we soak it all up, trying to hold every drop absorbing until we're positively dripping, bloated, sated, always taking without giving back. Being a "disciple"—a learner—was never intended to turn Christians into one-way sponges.

Still we pray, "Lord, fill me." I don't recall ever hearing, "Lord, empty me." The thought of being emptied is not a pleasant one, but emptying is what makes a sponge good for something. It's not bad to feel "all wrung out" if you know where to get filled up again.

Taking without giving back. We don't like it when people do it to us. "Sponging" is what we call it. Scripture has something to say about spiritual spongers. After wisely advising, "Each of you must be quick to listen," James soon adds, "Only be sure you act on the message and do not merely listen" (James 1:19, 22, NEB). In my copy, I have underlined *act*.

When I was an undergraduate student after World War II, with my tuition being paid under the G. I. Bill, the danger of becoming a professional student ranked low on my scale of personal hazards. But the further in education one goes, the easier it becomes. Sooner or later, you've got to start turning something back into the system.

Granted there's a certain attraction in studying theory, whether it's economics or theology. In religion, that's one way to keep faith at arm's length, celestial, undirted. No sweat. No smells. Everything tidy. It's not until you begin giving

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS & NOTES

MARLBORO CHURCH TRAVELS TO CRAGMONT FOR A RETREAT



One hundred and two people spent Labor Day weekend at Cragmont Assembly attending a family life retreat sponsored by Marlboro Church, Farmville, North Carolina. The weekend afforded those attending an opportunity to relax and spend time with fellow church members. Many took side trips and everyone participated in recreation and vesper services. The retreat was climaxed by a singspiration and a call to commitment.

The Rev. Scott Sowers is pastor of Marlboro Church.

Homecoming and Revival at Lanwood Chapel Church

Lanwood Chapel Church, Buffalo Road, Smithfield, North Carolina, will observe homecoming on Sunday, September 27. The Rev. W. O. Lassiter, a former pastor, will be bringing the homecoming message. Dinner will be served after the services. Following the dinner there will be special singing by the Missionnaires of Smithfield.

Revival services will begin on Monday, September 28, and will continue through October 2, at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Mike Scott. The pastor, the Rev. Floyd Smith, and the congregation prayfully invite everyone to attend.

Fellowship Supper at East Rockingham Church

On Saturday evening, August 22, 1981, the Woman's Auxiliary of East Rockingham Church, Rockingham, North Carolina, sponsored a fellowship supper at 6 p.m. Around 100 participated. There was a great time of spiritual fellowship with games for the youth and the adults. The pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Eddie Edwards, joined right in. They are a great spiritual inspiration to the church and the people.

There were cake walks, love offerings, and other free will offerings that came through different branches of the Woman's Auxiliary. The total given was $250. This was sent to Mrs. J. B. Starnes, with great love from the church, to help with her mobile home expense.

Upcoming Events at Gum Swamp Church

Gum Swamp Church near Belvoir will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 27. The Rev. Ray Williamson will bring the morning message. Special music will be provided by the church choir. All former pastors, members, and friends of the church are invited.

Revival services will begin at the church September 28 continuing through October 2, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Clyde Cox is the evangelist.

Revival and Homecoming at Lee's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Lee's Chapel Church, Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina, Monday through Friday, October 5 through October 9, with the Rev. Arnold Price of Erwin, North Carolina, as guest evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The pastor, the Rev. Henry Armstrong, and the congregation cordially invite the public to attend these services.

Homecoming and Harvest Day will be observed on Sunday, October 11, at Lee's Chapel Church. The pastor will bring the morning message and lunch will be spread at noon. The afternoon program will consist of a memorial service and singing. All former church members and visitors are cordially invited to attend.

Two Young Men Called Into the Ministry



The Tim Wallace family and the Orvin B. Everette Jr. family

Verona Church, Verona, North Carolina, is happy to announce that from its congregation God has called two of its young men into the ministry. Both have been approved by the church and the ordaining council of the Eastern Conference for license. They are Tim Wallace and Orvin B. Everette Jr.

Tim and Cathy Wallace have a two-year-old son and a five-year-old daughter. They are from Indiana, where Tim graduated from Haworth High School, Haworth, Indiana. He has attended Coastal Carolina College for two years. He is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Wallace of New Smyrna Beach, Florida. His address is Tim Wallace, Route 3, Box 341, Jacksonville, North Carolina 28540; phone, 455-8574.

Orvin and Sherry Everette have a two and one-half-year-old daughter. Orvin Jr. is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Orvin B. Everette Sr. of Folkstone, North Carolina. Sherry is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Padgett of Maple Hill, North Carolina. Both graduated from Dixon High School, Dixon, North Carolina. His address is Orvin B. Everette Jr., Route 2, Box 205, Maple Hill, North Carolina 28454; phone, 346-4784.

Their pastor, the Rev. Boyd L. Shook, states both of these young families desire to be used for God's glory and want to be a blessing to any church that could use them for any service.

Upcoming Events for Kenly Church

Kenly Church, Kenly, North Carolina, will observe its 90th anniversary on Sunday, October 4, with the Rev. Joseph Ingram, director of Foreign Missions, being the guest minister for the 11 a.m. worship service. During this service, tribute will be paid to those having departed this life since last homecoming. The noon meal will be served in the fellowship hall.

Revival services will begin on Sunday, October 4, and will continue through Thursday, October 8. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch Church, Winterville, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. James V. Joyner, and the congregation invite everyone to attend each of these special events.

Sidney Church to Have Homecoming

Sidney Church at Belhaven, North Carolina, will be having its homecoming on September 27. The church and its pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, invite everyone to attend. A program has been planned to follow the meal.

Albemarle District Youth To Meet

The Albemarle District Youth will meet on October 5, 1981, at 7 p.m., at First Church, Plymouth, North Carolina. Something special is being planned for everyone.

Revival in Progress At Little Rock Church



The Rev. Marvin Waters

Little Rock Church, Lucama, North Carolina, invites everyone to share in the remainder of their revival services which are continuing through September 24. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. The prayer rooms open at 7:15 p.m. under the leadership of the board of

(Turn the Page)

deacons. Special music is being provided by the choirs of Little Rock Church. The nursery attendants are on duty each evening. The pastor brought the message for Sunday evening, but the Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Bern, North Carolina, is delivering the message for the remaining services.

Revival Services to Be Held At Little Creek Church

Little Creek Church near Ayden, North Carolina, will have its fall revival September 27 through October 1, at 7:30 p.m. The guest minister will be the Rev. Calvin Heath, pastor of Free Union Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina. Special music is being planned for each evening.

Homecoming will be observed at the church on Sunday, October 4, at 11 a.m.; lunch will follow the morning worship service. The Rev. William Dale, pastor of Spring Hill Church, Goldsboro, will deliver the homecoming message.

The Rev. Frank Flowers, pastor of Little Creek Church, cordially invites the public to attend the revival services and homecoming.

Charles Barnard Family To Be at Winterville Church

The Charles Barnard Family, Free Will Baptist missionary candidates to the Philippines, will be at Winterville Church, Winterville, North Carolina, on October 4, 1981, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Services in Progress At Arapahoe Church

Revival services are in progress at Arapahoe Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, through September 25. The guest evangelist is the Rev. Francis Garner, pastor of Sound View Church. Services will begin nightly at 7:30. There will be featured special singing and a nursery is provided nightly. On behalf of the congregation, the pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, extends a cordial welcome to everyone to attend these services.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 27, with dinner on the grounds and an afternoon of special singing.

Recent Events at Faith Mission



Bible school was held recently at Faith Mission, Leland, North Carolina. Services began each evening with the young people marching in behind the Bible and flags. After the pledges, a hymn, and prayer, everyone went to class to study God's Word and to work on crafts. Refreshments were served each evening.

Commencement exercises were held on August 9 at 7 p.m. During the exercises, each class had a part on the program and certificates of attendance were presented to students and staff members.

The director of the school was Mrs. Cindy MacLemoore. She was also remembered with a small gift of appreciation.

Pictured above are five young ladies who have recently made decisions for Christ. Three joined the mission at the close of an 11 a.m. worship service—one by letter, and the other two by decisions for Christ. Two more young ladies made their decisions for Christ at the conclusion of the Bible school exercises. The people of Faith Mission praise the Lord for all He is doing.

Homecoming and Revival at Smith's New Home Church

Homecoming will be observed at Smith's New Home Church, Route 1, Deep Run, North Carolina, on September 27. A full day of activities is planned. The pastor, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, will deliver the homecoming sermon. The adult and youth choirs will bring special music. The annual homecoming and harvest offering will be given. Lunch will be spread in the church fellowship hall at the noon hour. Activities for the day will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m.

The afternoon service will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will be composed of a memorial service and a special musical concert to be given by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Birchard and their two sons, John and Scott. The Birchards are from Core Creek Church of Cove City, North Carolina. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to the homecoming activities.

Revival services will begin on Monday, September 28 and will continue through Friday, October 2, with the Rev. Wayne King of Kinston, North Carolina, as the visiting minister. The pastor will assist in the revival. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The church is located approximately 11 miles south of Kinston, North Carolina, on Highway 258.

Changes in Events At May's Chapel Church

Please notice the changes in the events for May's Chapel Church, Route 3, Dudley, North Carolina. Its annual homecoming will be on Sunday, September 27. Kim Davis, a former member of May's Chapel, will be the guest

speaker. There will be a picnic lunch in the fellowship hall following the morning worship hour. There will be no services after lunch.

Its fall revival will be September 28 through October 2. The Rev. Davie Brinson will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin each night at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services to Be Held at Snow Hill Church

Revival services will be held at Snow Hill Church, Route 2, Mount Olive, North Carolina, October 5 through October 9, at 7:30 p.m.

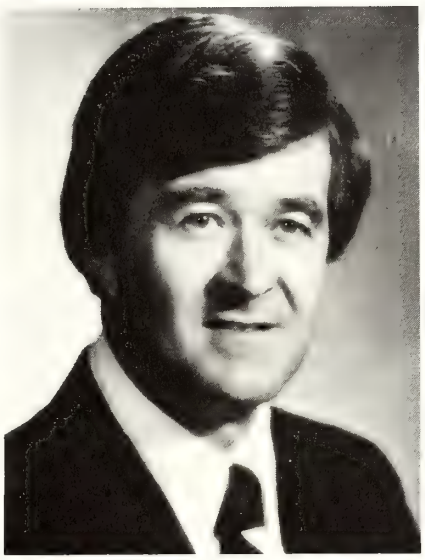
The Rev. Floyd Cherry, President of the Carolina Bible Institute, will be the evangelist for the week. There will be special singing each night under the direction of Mrs. Mary Gold Bell, accompanied by Miss Faye Reardon, pianist. The church choir and singers from other churches will be part of each service. The pastor, the Rev. John Owens, and the church membership give everyone a cordial invitation to share the blessing of God.

Upcoming Events to Be At People's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at People's Chapel Church, Route 2, Elm City, North Carolina, October 5 through October 9, at 7:45 p.m. The Rev. David Charles Hansley will be the evangelist. The Rev. Barry L. Gardner is pastor of the church. There will be refreshments served and a time of fellowship on Friday night in the Ferrell building.

On October 4, People's Chapel Church will observe its annual homecoming. There will be special singing in the afternoon. A picnic lunch will be served in the Ferrell building. All members, former pastors, and friends are invited to attend.

Revival Services to Be Held at Union Chapel Church



The Rev. Jack Mayo

Revival services will be held at Union Chapel Church, Plymouth, North Carolina, September 28 through October 2, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Jack Mayo will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. O. Swade Benson is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each night. The public is invited to attend.

Homecoming Day at Rose Hill Church

Rose Hill Church near Winterville, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 4. The services for the day will include Sunday school at 10 a.m., and worship service at 11 a.m., with the pastor, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman, bringing the homecoming message. Following these services lunch will be served in the fellowship building. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend and enjoy a time of fellowship.

Revival Services at First Church, Warsaw

The Rev. David Charles Hansley will be the guest evangelist for revival services at the First Church at Warsaw, September 28 through October 2. The Rev. M. L. Whitfield and the church congregation invite everyone to attend. There will be special singing each night. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Kinston Church Announces Revival and Homecoming

First Church, Kinston, North Carolina, announces revival services the week of September 28 through October 2, 1981. Services will begin each evening at 7:45. The speaker for the services will be the Rev. Joseph Ingram of Goldsboro. Mr. Ingram is the director-treasurer of the Foreign Missions Board of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists. There will be special singing in each of the services.

On Sunday, October 4, the church will observe its annual homecoming services. Sunday school will begin at 9:45, with the morning worship beginning at 11 a.m. The pastor of the church, the Rev. C. H. Overman, and the members of the church extend a cordial invitation to attend any or all of these services. Friends and former pastors are especially urged to attend the homecoming service and also to enjoy the bountiful picnic-type lunch that will be served at the noon hour.

Homecoming and Revival Services at Union Grove

Homecoming at Union Grove Church will be held on September 27. Sunday school will start at 9:45 a.m. The Rev. Bob Harber will bring the message at 11 a.m. Lunch will be spread at 12:30 p.m. The afternoon service will start at 1:30 p.m. with the Watchmen Quartet doing the special singing.

Revival services will begin at Union Grove Church on September 28 continuing through October 2, 1981. The Rev. Lloyd Hargis of Trinity Church in Clayton, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Bob Harber and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

(News and Notes continued on Page 13)

Report of the Board of Home Missions

For Fiscal Year July 1, 1980—June 30, 1981

CONTRIBUTIONS

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	$ 495.70
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	15.50
Albemarle Union Meeting	40.00
Cape Colony Mission	170.00
Corinth	25.00
Free Union	270.00
Hickory Chapel	960.04
Malachi's Chapel	236.00
Mount Tabor	125.00
Mount Zion	412.91
Plymouth, First	43.80
Saint Paul	333.09
Shiloh	225.58
Sidney	752.24
Union Chapel (Plymouth)	571.79
Total	$ 4,676.65

CAPE FEAR

Bethel (Johnston County)	$ 171.25
Cape Fear District Auxiliary Convention	18.30
Cape Fear Union Meeting	78.01
Cape Fear Conference	172.77
Catalpa Mission	350.00
Casey's Chapel	261.50
Daly's Chapel	125.00
Eastover Mission	134.53
Goldsboro, First	1,163.20
Haymount Mission	948.13
Hopewell (Smithfield)	338.40
Johnston Union	438.56
Lee's Chapel	732.50
Mount Olive	30.00
Oak Grove	100.00
Palmer Memorial	383.26
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Powhatan	771.03
Riverside	420.00
Robert's Grove	220.00
Saint Mary's Grove	175.00
Saint Paul (Newton Grove)	75.00
Shady Grove	481.64
Smithfield, First	125.00
Smyrna	50.00
Tee's Chapel	520.00
Victory Mission	118.21
Wooten's Chapel	252.11
Yelverton Grove	262.00
Total	$ 9,115.40

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 160.00
Ayden	320.00
Bethany	416.57
Black Jack	1,082.41
Central Conference Mission Board	650.00
Community	32.50
Daniels Chapel	1,207.00
Dawson's Grove	20.00
Dilda's Grove	40.00
Edgewood	239.01
Elm Grove	435.61
Free Union (Greene County)	538.00
Friendship (Greene County)	2,196.76
Greenville, First	560.00
Grimsley	393.00
Gum Swamp	380.00
Harrell's Chapel	980.00
Hickory Grove	272.12
Howell Swamp	72.00
Hugo	600.65
Hull Road	558.75
King's Cross Roads	221.42
LaGrange	116.49
Little Creek	76.50
Marlboro	236.49
Ormondsville	270.00
Otter's Creek	315.64
Owens Chapel	300.00
Peace	214.00
Piney Grove	223.03
Pleasant Hill	20.00
Reedy Branch	367.12
Roanoke Rapids, First	82.32
Rocky Mount Mission	90.00
Rocky Mount, First	458.00
Rose of Sharon	100.00
Rose Hill	610.00
Saratoga	170.00
Second Union	43.89
Spring Branch	210.00
Sweet Gum Grove	96.00
Tarboro, First	1,556.71
Walnut Creek	100.00
Watery Branch	30.00
Williamston, First	501.72
Winterville	1,316.72
Total	$ 18,880.43

EASTERN

Antioch	$ 500.00
Arapahoe	580.55
Beaufort Mission	204.00
Beulaville	495.58
Bethlehem	250.00
Bethel (Pamlico)	100.00
Bridgeton	760.00
Cabin	195.50
Christian Chapel	200.00
Core Creek	257.40
Core Point Chapel	20.00
Crab Point	322.95
Croatan	80.00
Davis	161.59
Deep Run	40.00
Dublin Grove	50.00
Faith Mission	23.58
Faith	310.64
Fifth Sunday School Convention	35.00
Fifth Union	151.00
Folkstone	510.00
Friendship (Jones County)	65.00
Gray Branch	800.00
Holly Springs	1,230.64
Indian Springs	40.00
Jackson Heights	225.85
Juniper Chapel	418.29
Kinston, First	245.00
Lanier's Chapel	50.00
Macedonia	372.50
May's Chapel	200.00
Moseley's Creek	200.00
Mount Zion	168.00
Mount Zion (Onslow)	120.00
New Bethlehem	50.00
New Haven	200.00
Northeast	260.00
Oak Grove (Vanceboro)	62.00
Oriental	45.70
Pearsall Chapel	320.00
Pilgrim's Home	160.00
Pilgrims Rest	198.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Rock of Zion	700.00
Rooty Branch	50.00
Russell's Creek	12.00
Saints Delight	1,026.00
Sandy Plain	971.02
Sarecta	215.00
Smith's New Home	386.30
Snow Hill	530.00
Sound View	202.36
Spring Hope	60.00
St. Mary's (New Bern)	1,282.78
Third Union District	135.00
Verona	240.00
Wardens Grove	149.27
Warsaw	20.00
Welcome Home	260.00
Westside	210.00
Whaley's Chapel	95.00
White Oak	20.00
White Oak Grove	32.00
Wintergreen	606.93
Total	$ 17,932.31

INDIVIDUALS

Allen, Annie	$ 1.00
Baker, Fred	195.00
Baldree, Versie	10.00
Brown, Herbert	5.00
Coats, C. M.	50.00
Dunn, Callie	31.00
Edwards, Flossie	5.00
Fowler, Edna	100.00
Furlough, David	10.00
Gray, Adaline	5.00
Gaskill, Eugene	25.00
Hansley, David W.	65.77
Harris, Dennis I.	75.00
Harrison, Ray	20.00
Hathaway, J. C.	5.00
Hayes, Mrs. Jenny	10.00

Heath, Calvin	5.00
Hott, T. W. and Elizabeth	20.00
Houston, Dewey	10.00
Hunt, James B.	100.00
Jones, Robert D.	50.00
Jones, D. H. Jr.	7.00
Kennedy, Arthur	200.00
Kennedy, Percy	300.00
McAbee, Ransom	5.00
Manning, Elza	25.00
Murray, Clyde	25.00
Pepkin, Kathleen	10.00
Phipps, Dorothy	2.00
Price, Mazelle	10.00
Raper, Burkette	25.00
Rhodes, John	10.00
Riley, Dianne	20.00
Roberson, Michael	1.00
Roper, E. G.	20.00
Salter, Mary	12.50
Sasser, Ada	25.00
Skinner, J. D.	10.00
Smith, S. A.	10.00
Sumner, Ralph	5.00
Watson, Wayne	5.00
Woodall, Johnnie	5.00
Total	$1,530.28

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$ 676.56
Cypress Creek	209.88
Emerson	50.00
Freedom Mission	505.86
Mission Valley	32.22
Mount Calvary	25.00
Oak Grove (Bladenboro)	2,389.07
Pee Dee District Auxiliary Convention	90.00
Pee Dee Association	140.04
Pee Dee Union No. 1	20.00
White Oak	67.05
Total	$4,205.68

PIEDMONT

Advance Mission	$ 73.10
Baptist Cathedral	50.00
East Rockingham	1,533.88
Heritage Mission	326.23
Hopewell (Hamlet)	303.11
Mount Olive (Kannapolis)	30.00
Total	$ 2,316.32

WESTERN

Agape Mission	$ 150.00
Barnes Hill	200.00
Branch Chapel	2,000.00
Calvary	150.00
Durham, First	75.00
Elwood Lane	368.43
Everett Chapel	933.76
First Union	370.00
First, Sunday School Convention	50.00
Flood's Chapel	66.50
Free Spirit	50.00
Free Union (Nash County)	256.20
Fremont	770.00
Friendship (Johnston)	377.00
Holly Springs	270.00
Kenly	289.98
Little Rock	492.00
Living Waters	360.00
Marsh Swamp	616.65
Micro	174.73
Milbournie	52.50
Mount Zion (Nash County)	232.06
New Sandy Hill	100.00
Northern	1,589.00
Oak Grove	437.25
People's Chapel	237.97
Piney Grove (Kenly)	324.00
Pine Level	380.00
Pleasant Grove	552.26
Pleasant Hill	400.00
Pleasant Plain	135.00
Rains Cross Roads	180.00
Rock Springs	96.50
Rosebud	47.98
Second Union Meeting	50.00
Selma	100.00
Sherron Acres	600.00
Spring Hill	1,439.50
St. Mary's (Kenly)	922.50
Stancill's Chapel	91.00
Stoney Creek	1,010.00
Stony Hill	125.00
Trinity	525.00
Unity	83.00
Union Grove (Fremont)	201.50
Watson's Grove	50.00
Western Youth Fellowship	25.00
Western District Auxiliary Convention	228.37
Wilson, First	991.14
Total	$ 19,226.78

OTHERS

Cash Offerings (Mission Rally)	$ 201.86
Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference	50.05
North Carolina State Auxiliary Convention	21.91
North Carolina State Auxiliary Christian Service	332.49
In Memory of Merviene Phelps by Union Chapel	85.00
Total	$ 691.31
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	$ 78,575.20
OTHER INCOME:	
Refunds (Deaf Camp, etc.)	$ 460.00
Earmarked Foreign Missions	36.50
Earmarked Eastern Conference	75.00
Sale of West Hillsborough property	5,000.00
Sale of Henderson property	7,305.43
Earmarked for Taylor Hill Personal for Medical Expenses at Mount Olive Banquet	4,677.82
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	$ 17,554.75
TOTAL RECEIPTS	$ 96,129.95

DISBURSEMENTS

Missions	$ 57,930.74
All Mission Travel	4,512.87
Payments on Loans	7,214.93
Printing, Postage, Equipment Secretary Bookkeeping, General Office Expenses	6,442.66
Deaf Camp	842.00
Earmarked Eastern Conference Missions	75.00
Earmarked Foreign Missions	36.50
Earmarked Fund for Taylor Hill, Medical expenses from Banquets	3,961.82
Banquet expenses: meals, plaque	756.58
Disbursements	81,773.10
To Savings Account	20,000.00
Total Disbursements	$101,773.10

Cash in Bank:	
Balance, July 1, 1980	$ 29,122.00
Total Income	96,129.95
Total	125,251.95
Less Disbursements	101,773.10
Balance June 30, 1981	$ 23,478.85
Cash in Savings:	
Balance 1980	$ 20,000.00
Interest earned during year	819.53
Balance, June 30, 1981	$ 20,819.53

Respectfully submitted,
Taylor Hill, *Executive Director Treasurer*

NOTICE

Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet on Tuesday, October 13, at 10 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina. Anyone having business with the council please come on this date.

Royce Reynolds, *Secretary*

NOTICE

Last chance to renew your FWB subscription during September at current prices.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Life would be a lot smoother if we would learn to relax—and with God's help—wait patiently; and we can only learn patience by seeking and expecting God's help.

May the following be our prayer:

God, grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can
And wisdom to know the difference.

—Reinhold Neibuhr

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

"HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL!": A BIBLICAL DRAMA

"The secret of success is to make a commitment for what is right and then never bring that decision up for review again," said Miss Rudene Kennedy to students and faculty at Mount Olive College's first chapel service.

"The Bible," said Miss Kennedy, "is like a drama. Read the Bible and learn from it so that you can act it out in your daily life." Miss Kennedy used Daniel, a teenager from Jerusalem, as her example of a productive life.

Daniel had been taken as a slave to Babylon to help build the king's government. He was chosen by Nebuchadnezzar because of his handsome appearance and his intellectual abilities. Daniel served in a foreign country as a politician and a statesman as well as a missionary. "What was his secret?" asked Miss Kennedy.

Daniel's secret for a long and productive life was that he committed himself to truth, according to the speaker. "Daniel started right and he ended right," said Miss Kennedy. Daniel had decided early that he would not defile his body with the king's meat—a decision that could have meant instant death.

Daniel made a decision for what was right even though he was far away from his home and his parents, explained Miss Kennedy to the students. "It's what you do when you're by yourself and nobody else knows that shows what you are," said Miss Kennedy.

Miss Kennedy is a member of Cabin Church in Beulaville. She is a graduate of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Tennessee and holds a master's degree from Old Dominion College in Virginia.

Miss Kennedy has been serving as a home missionary in the mountains of Virginia.

CHORAL WORKSHOP FOR CHOIR MEMBERS

Mrs. Carolyn Knox will teach a basic choral workshop at Gray Branch Church, at Deep Run, North Carolina, on September 28, September 29, and October 1.

The course will emphasize note reading, rhythm, and various choral techniques for choir members who want to learn basic music fundamentals. All area church choir members are invited to participate. There is no charge for the course.

Mrs. Knox is an instructor of music at Mount Olive College.

PAUL PALMER COURSES TO BE TAUGHT

Miss Rudene Kennedy will teach two eight-week courses under the Paul Palmer Institute in October.

"The Life and the Letters of Paul" will be taught on Mondays, beginning October 5, from 9-11 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Bookstore in Kinston. The bookstore is on Queen Street.

Miss Kennedy will also teach "The Life and the Teachings of Jesus" on Tuesdays, beginning October 6, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., at Cabin Church in Beulaville.

Both courses may be taken for three Paul Palmer credits. The tuition for each course is $20. (Persons desiring credit must pay an additional $10 registration fee.)

Books for both courses may be purchased at the first class meeting.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Bethany Church, Pitt County, on Sunday, September 27, at 11 a.m. The pastor is the Rev. C. L. Patrick.

President Raper will also speak at Free Union Church, Greene County, on Sunday, October 4, at 11 a.m. The pastor is the Rev. Calvin Heath.

At both churches, Dr. Raper will teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes at 10 a.m. During his visit, President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college.

1981 DINNERS FOR MOC

Lenoir County, Saturday, October 3, 7 p.m., King's Barbecue Restaurant, Kinston, A. Stanley Jenkins, Chairman. Goal: $7,175

Jones County, Tuesday, October 6, 7 p.m., King's Barbecue Restaurant, Kinston, Mrs. Mildred Jenkins, Chairman. Goal: $2,425

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Tuesday, October 13, 7:30 p.m., First Church of Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, Chairman. Goal: $5,500

Greene County, Saturday, October 17, 7 p.m., West Greene School, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal: $9,775

Nash County, Tuesday, October 20, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal: $3,875

Craven County, Monday, October 26, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle High School, Miss Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal: $9,250

Wayne County, Tuesday, October 27, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, Chairman. Goal: $17,650

List continued next issue.

AUXILIARY NOTES

EASTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY TO MEET

The Eastern District Auxiliary Convention will convene with Spring Hope Church, near Bridgeton, North Carolina, on September 24. The theme will be "You Are Important to God." The Scripture will be taken from 1 Corinthians 12:18-20. The theme song will be "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Let Him Have His Way with Thee"
—Welcome, Mrs. Eva Mae Clark
—Response, Mrs. Jean Turnage
—Devotion and Prayer, Rudene Kennedy
10:25—President's Remarks, Mrs. Rena Kirk
—Business Session
11:05—Special Music, Judy Jones and Ann Daughety
—Offering and Prayer
—Pin Award, Mrs. Mildred Jenkins
—Special Music, the Rev. Grady Tucker
11:25—Message, the Rev. Ray Williamson
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Chorus Time, Mrs. Deborah King
—Prayer
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Motie B. Cherry
1:30—Reports:
—Superannuation, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
—Children's Home, Sarah Styron
—Retirement Homes
—Cragmont, Mrs. Irene Morris
—Camp Vandemere, Mrs. Nina Grace Register
—Eastern Conference Missions, the Rev. Walter Sutton
—Free Will Baptist Press, Mrs. Janie Sowers
—Home Missions, the Rev. Ray Wells
—Foreign Missions, Mrs. Mildred Jenkins
—Mount Olive College, Mrs. Dianne Riley
—Treasurer, Mrs. Velma Morris
—Youth, Mrs. Deborah King
—Miscellaneous
—Hymn, "Work for the Night Is Coming"
—Benediction

Music Director, Mrs. Barbara Tucker
Pianist, Mrs. Tessie Daughety

WESTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY TO MEET

The Western District Auxiliary Convention will convene at Calvary Church, Wilson, North Carolina, on October 7, 1981. The theme Scripture will be taken from Matthew 26:7. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:15—Registration
9:45—Hymn, "More Like the Master"
—Devotions, Margie Pittman, Calvary
—Welcome, Florence Taylor, Host Auxiliary
—President's Remarks, Rosalene Bass, Mount Zion, Nash County
10:15—Hymn, "His Way with Thee"
—Giving His Word Through Missions, Florence Taylor, Calvary
—Sharing His Bounty Through Benevolence, Esther Barnes, Little Rock
—Special Music, Host Church
—Cragmont Offering
—Teaching Through Love Our Youth, Dot Barbour, Trinity
11:00—Hymn, "Take My Life, and Let It Be"
—Offering and Prayer
—Special Music, Alma Dale, Spring Hill
—Convention Message, Virginia Joyner, Kenly
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven"
—Devotions, Donna Holland, Union Grove
—Cragmont Time
—Business
—Closing Hymn, "All to Jesus I Surrender"
—Benediction

ATTENTION LADIES OF THE ALBEMARLE DISTRICT

Ladies of the Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention, please send me the names of the deceased members of your local auxiliary who have passed away since October, 1980. The address is Route 2, Box 338, Belhaven, North Carolina 27810. If you prefer you may give them to me when our district convention convenes with the Corinth Church on October 15. Thank you.

Don't forget to bring your love offering for missions to win the lost at any cost!

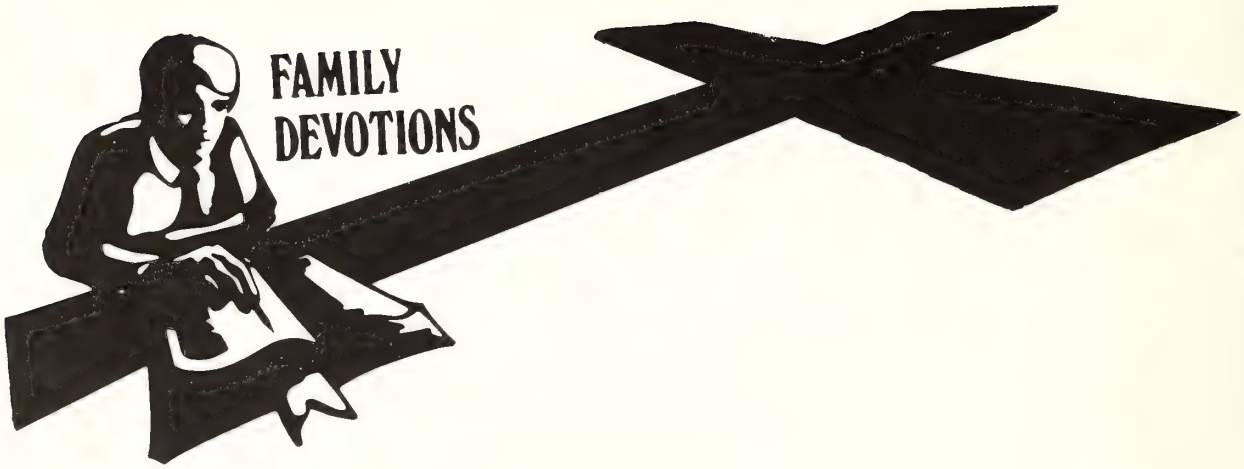
Mrs. Edwin Roper

STUDY COURSE PLANNED

There will be a study course held at Kenly Church, Kenly, North Carolina, on October 1, 1981, at 8 p.m. The course will be on stewardship and will be taught by Mrs. Nadine Crocker. All other churches in the area are welcomed.

Mrs. J. R. Kennedy

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28-33

THE RAVEN EXPRESS

In a TV interview, Bob Causey, a great basketball star, was confronted with this observation: "Bob, many of your fans are asking why don't you look at your teammate when you pass the ball to him."

Bob flashed back, "Well, I never pass to where my teammate is. I pass to *where he ought to be!*"

If we are not where God wants us to be, we may thwart His plan for our lives.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Elijah would have missed connection with the Raven Express if he had not been at the divinely designated brook Cherith: ". . . I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there" (1 Kings 17:4).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Romans 13:1-14

A PATHETIC PLEA

A greatly-sinned-against teenager in seeking help wrote to a newspaper columnist, saying, "My mom and dad got a divorce last year, and our family is falling apart. Mom is drunk most of the time and can't hold a job. I'm fifteen and have two brothers and two sisters. I've tried my best to make a home for the younger kids, but it's a losing battle. Dad sends the support checks every month, but Mom drinks up most of it. On top of her own drinking problem, she has some thirsty friends.

"I work after school washing dishes in a cafe. I don't mind not having some social life or time to study as much as I should, but I don't think I should be away from the house so much. The little ones need me. Please tell me what to do."

PRAYER THOUGHT

What havoc is wrought upon children and youth by these merciless destroyers—alcoholic beverages!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Job 20:4-29

SIN PAYS WAGES—DEATH

Said Jacquin Sanders in *Newsweek* Feature Service, "The least heartening comeback story of the year is the return of venereal disease as a major health problem. VD is now the nation's most common communicable disease, except for the common cold. Conservative estimates put the number of Americans who contracted VD in 1969 at more than 1.5 million—up 15 percent. Vast numbers of victims do not report that they have the disease and very often do not know it. San Francisco health authorities estimate that one in every five teenagers will be infected before leaving high school!"

Said Dr. William Brown, chief of the venereal program at the National Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, "Gonorrhea is now out of control. Under present conditions there seems absolutely no room for optimism."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Failure to reckon with God's immutable laws brings tragic consequences: "Be not deceived . . . he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption" (Galatian 6:8).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 26:3-12

SITTING LOOSE

An elderly lady was asked the secret of her serenity and spiritual poise. She replied, "I have learned how to sit loose."

Too much tension can work havoc with machinery. It can also be disastrous for the human machine—the body. Tense nerves may snap.

Too few of God's children have experienced the tranquilizing, stabilizing power of the sure promise: ". . . in confidence shall be thy strength" (Isaiah 30:15).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Quiescent trust in the provident care of God works wonders!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

Scripture Reading—Psalm 13:1-6

A SINE QUA NON

Pathos and heart-appea were lacking in the singing of a young lady who had studie

voice with one of the country's greatest teachers for years. Said he one day to her, "I have taught you all I know. You lack only what I cannot give you."

"What's that?" asked the young lady.

Earnestly the instructor said, "Something will have to come into your life that will bring sorrow and suffering. Only then can you sing with depth of feeling and understanding."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart? (Job 38:36).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 5:8-30

JEREMIADS

Through the centuries, each generation has experienced dangerous and disastrous times.

In 1857, *Harper's Weekly* said: "It is a gloomy moment in history. Not for many years has there been so much apprehension. Never has the future seemed so incalculable. In France the political cauldron seethes. Russia hangs like a cloud on the horizon. All the resources of the British Empire are sorely tried. Of our own troubles in the United States, no man can see the end."

When the outlook is dark, try the uplook.

PRAYER THOUGHT

As Stephen was being stoned, he "looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Scripture Reading—Psalm 100:2-5

TURN UP SOMETHING

Some discouraged students said to Dwight L. Moody, "Nothing turns up." Quipped practical Moody, "Go out and turn something up!"

Said Sir Philip Sidney, English soldier and poet, "Either I will find a way, or I will make one."

Said Dante, "He who sees a need and waits to be asked for help is as unkind as if he had refused it."

Prayed Peter Marshall in the United States Senate, "O God, reach down and change the gears within us that we may go forward with Thee."

Said Robert Browning, "Get thy tools ready! God will find the work!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Yet now be strong, . . . saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you . . . (Haggai 2:4).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

Use another source for your Sunday school lesson reading next week because there will not be a *Free Will Baptist.*

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

Homecoming Day at First Church, Durham

First Church, Durham, North Carolina, will observe its homecoming on Sunday, September 27. The day's service will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. followed by morning worship at 11 a.m. The pastor, the Rev. Fred Johnson, will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served at noon on the church grounds. Everyone is welcome to attend the day's activities.

Upcoming Events at Northeast Church

Homecoming will be observed at Northeast Church, Route 5, Mount Olive, North Carolina, on October 4. Services will began at 10 a.m. with lunch following the worship hour. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited to attend.

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 5, and will continue through October 9. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. W. S. Burns, pastor of Elm Grove Church, will be the guest evangelist.

Albemarle Conference To Meet

The Thirty-seventh Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference will meet at First Church, Plymouth, North Carolina, on Wednesday, October 7. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Devotions, the Rev. Joe Griffith
9:40—Welcome, Mrs. Phyllis Allen
—Response, the Rev. Ronnie Mohn
9:45—Conference Called to Order, Mr. Oscar Webster
—Adoption of Program as Order of Business
—Enrollment of Churches
—Enrollment of Ministers and Delegates
—Delegates from Other Church Bodies
—Ministers (Visitors)
10:15—Moderator's Address
—Appointment of Temporary Committees:
Resolution
Temperance
Nominating
—Morning Offering
—Report of Standing Boards:
Executive Board
Board of Trustees
Board of Education
Board of Missions
Board of Ordination
11:20—Announcements
11:25—Special Music, First Church, Plymouth
—Message, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Devotions, the Rev. L. E. Ambrose
1:10—Memorial Service, the Rev. Charlie Overton
1:20—Report of State Convention

(Continued on Page 15)

St. Claire Bible Class

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For October 4

GOD'S OFFER OF MERCY TO ALL

Lesson Text: Isaiah 55:1-9
Memory Verse: Isaiah 55:6

I. INTRODUCTION

Two hundred years before Isaiah's time the great empire of Solomon had been split into two little kingdoms, Israel in the north and Judah in the south. Isaiah lived in Jerusalem, capital of Judah. About the middle of his forty-year ministry the armies of Assyria overran and destroyed the north kingdom of Israel. They invaded Judah also, but the Lord's angel turned them back.

Isaiah's book falls naturally into three parts. Part one, Chapters 1—35, is largely concerned with Assyria and its threat to Jerusalem. Part two (Chapters 36—39) tells how the Assyrian threat was ended, but it records also the prophecy that Judah would be defeated and made captive by Babylon. Part three is a collection of prophecies mainly about the Babylonian captivity and its end. It tells of the restoration of Jerusalem after the captivity (Chapter 52), and the prophecies of that event blend almost imperceptibly into promises of a coming Saviour (Chapter 53), the offer of salvation to all the earth (52:10), and a description of the heavenly city (54:11-14) that is more fully described in the last chapters of Revelation. In this wide context the text of our lesson may be taken as God's call not only to Judah, but to all mankind.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

In an earlier *The Bible Teacher,* we wrote that Chapter 53 is the greatest chapter in the Book of Isaiah, because it is the truth set forth there that makes the great invitation of Chapter 55 possible. They are part of the section of Isaiah (Chapters 49—57) in which God presents His chosen Servant, our Lord Jesus Christ, as the Redeemer of Israel and the world. As such, Chapters 53 and 55 must be looked upon as a unit.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

Surely you expected Isaiah 55 to be among the great passages chosen for our study this quarter. (We will look at only the first nine verses.) This is a beloved passage, one committed to memory by many believers. Primarily the words were meant for Judah, as God's people looked forward to reestablishing their homes in Palestine after the Babylonian captivity. Many of them had lost hope and perhaps wondered whether God's mercy was still available. It was, and Isaiah seeks to convince them of it.

God extends His mercy to all people who will accept it. Better that we should ask for His mercy than to cry for justice. If we had our just deserts we would all be lost, but His mercy, when accepted through Christ, sets stern justice aside, and the believer can say, "The old account was settled long ago!"

Once we come to understand the fullness of His mercy —should that time ever come —we stand amazed in the presence of His Son, the personification of divine compassion. Then we can say with the poet:

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness of His justice
Which is more than liberty.
—Frederick William Faber
—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Danger of Evolution —The theory of evolution is not dangerous if taught as a theory, but the real problem is that it is presented in many textbooks and classrooms as fact. It is not proven and will not be dangerous if we understand that. But it is dangerous when taught as fact.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Donald Coates wishes to announce that he has a change of address. His new address is P. O. Box 450, Pine Level, North Carolina 27568. His old address was Route 1, Box 322, Blakely, Georgia 31723.

NOTICES

Due to our policy of printing 48 issues a year, there will be no FREE WILL BAPTIST for September 30. The next issue will be dated October 7, 1981.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50, and $30 respectively (plus tax where it applies). These are the price changes as of October 1, 1981, for THE FREE WILL BAPTIST.

Feature

(Continued from Page 3)

out that you take on the crushing burden of caring.

I've never understood why history marks those who withdraw from the world as the supremely righteous people. There indeed have to be meditative components in all our lives. Mountaintop experiences, we call them, times when we sense the power and presence of the Spirit and feel renewed. But renewed for what? It's nice to hear a sermon on the mount, but that's not where we live. When Jesus came down from the mount, a leper was waiting for His sermon in the valley. When Jesus came down from the Transfiguration, an epileptic boy desperately needed His healing touch.

John sets it straight: ". . . he that doeth righteousness is righteous . . ." (1 John 3:7). In my copy, I have underlined *doeth*. Righteousness, he says, isn't not hearing right, nor talking right, nor seeing right. It is doing right.

The test is in the output.

Another thought. We're not in business to insure our own spiritual health any more than someone becomes a doctor to make sure he won't get sick. His knowledge of health and medicine may help him avoid a few things which the rest of us are ignorant about. But doctors have a passion to do something for other people, and sometimes—in the pace of the doing—they place themselves beyond their own healing.

That's a different attitude from soaking up everything for one's self. Did you ever wonder why sponges are packaged moist and damp for marketing? Check it out the next time you're in a store. You'll see that a full sponge looks much better than one squeezed dry. But spiritual health just can't be gauged by the quantity of the input.

So go ahead and let God put the squeeze on you. Chances are you are robust enough to stand it—and anyhow, He is the source of renewing. Jesus puts it correctly for our time and for all time: "Your care for others is the measure of your greatness" (Luke 9:48, *The Living Bible*).

In my copy, I have underlined *others*.—**Stan Mooneyham**

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (September, 1981).

Auxiliary Notes

(Continued from Page 11)

STUDY COURSE FOR CENTRAL WOMEN

A study course in missions for the Woman's Auxiliaries of the Central Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 6, at 7:30 p.m., at King's Cross Roads Church near Farmville, North Carolina. All the women of the Central Conference are urged to attend. The Rev. Joseph Ingram will be directing the study.

Mrs. Albert Proctor

PEE DEE WOMEN TO MEET

The Pee Dee Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Cypress Creek Church, Whiteville, North Carolina, on October 3, 1981. The theme will be "How Worthy Am I?" The Scripture will be taken from Matthew 10:37, 38. The scheduled program is as follows:

9:30—Hymn
- —Devotions, Dalma Garrell
- —Welcome, Ramona Puckett
- —Response, Jan Smith
- —President's Message, Louise Cartrette
- —Offering
- —Business Session
- —Committee Reports
- —Special Music
- —Message, Rudene Kennedy
- —Hymn
- —Benediction
- —Lunch

FREMONT CHURCH AUXILIARY SPONSORS HARVEST SALE

The Woman's Auxiliary of Fremont Church will sponsor a harvest sale on Saturday, September 26, beginning at 10 a.m., at the Fremont School Cafeteria. Chicken pastry or fried chicken plates will be served from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will be an auction after lunch. Many items will be for sale including a North Carolina State quilt.

News and Notes

(Continued from Page 13)

- —Report of Mount Olive College
- —Report of Free Will Baptist Press
- —Report of Children's Home
- —Report of Retirement Homes
- —Report of the Board of Superannuation
- —Report of Cragmont
- —Report of Church Finance Association
- —Report of Home Missions and Church Extension
- —Report of Foreign Missions

2:10—Business:
- —Report of Temporary Committees
- —Report of Treasurer
- —Appointment of Delegates to Various Church Bodies
- —Installation of New Officers
- —Announcement of Next Conference
- —Reading of Minutes
- —Adjournment and Benediction

Don't forget to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist* at current prices!

111 Plum Street
Williamston, N.C. 27892
September 2, 1981

Dear Editor of Free Will paper,

I am sending $10.00 for my subscription as far as it will go for my subscription . . . I have been reading it for around 80 years, but don't know how much longer I can read it, but if I can longer I will send some more money for it.

With love,
Lillie P. Harrison

Letters like the one above help us know our work is important. They also reaffirm our belief that every Free Will Baptist home should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* But many do not. If you have friends or relatives who do not receive the paper, why not subscribe for them? They may have never seen a copy.

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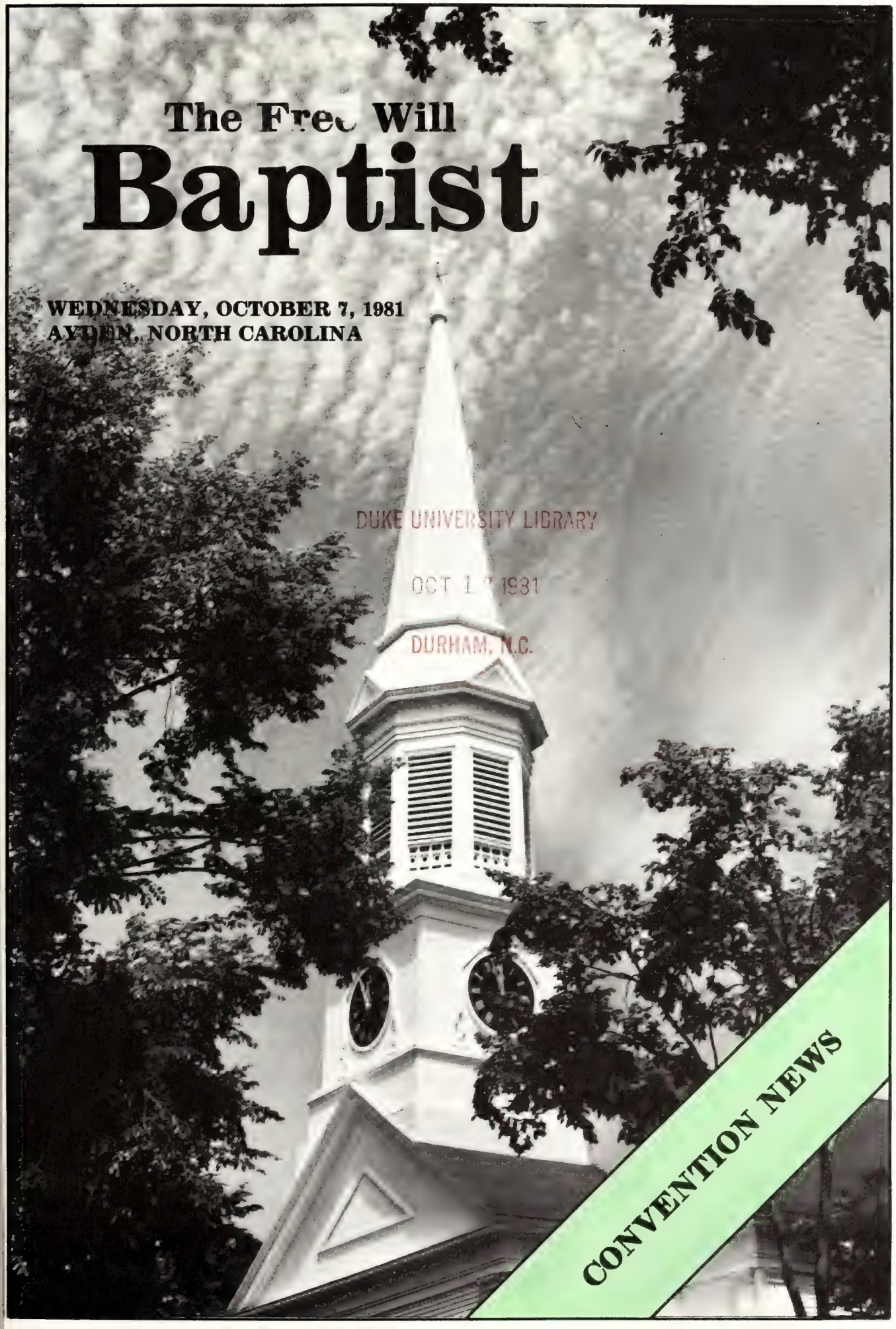
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CONVENTION NEWS

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 96 Number 37

October 7, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Meeting in Kinston

This issue of *The Free Will Baptist* has been expanded so we might give you better coverage of this year's State Convention. The Convention, held September 16, 17, was an enjoyable one.

(More details of the Convention will be given in next week's issue.)



Kenny Hill



The Rev. David C. Hansley

The Revs. Walter Sutton and T. C. Farmer talk with others at the Convention.



CONVENTION EMBARKS ON NEW CHALLENGES:

The Most Comprehensive Program *Ever* Adopted at 1981 Session

IT was the Sixty-ninth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Attendance was good and harmony prevailed. The Rev. David Charles Hansley, president of the Convention, presided in a very able manner. From the outset it was evident that he was in control, and much of the credit for the success of the Convention is due him. There was little doubt in anyone's mind—even from the start—that when the Convention adjourned, it would have adopted its most comprehensive program ever.

Annual reports from denominational enterprises, institutions, and bodies were given on both days of the Convention. The Rev. Eddie Edwards, pastor of East Rockingham Church of Rockingham, delivered the message during the morning session on Wednesday. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark, assistant pastor of Sherron Acres Church, Durham, spoke at the conclusion of the morning session on Thursday. Many present felt the reports and sermons to be the highlights of their two-day stay in Kinston.

As is the custom, the Mission Rally was held on Wednesday night. The North Carolina State Home Missions and Church Extension Department was in charge of the service this year. Young people from various home mission points participated. A group from Cape Colony Mission, Edenton, began the program by presenting a skit; testimonies were then given by youth from Faith, Advance, Catalpa, Victory, and Cape Colony Missions. Individuals from the 1981 Deaf Camp, a camp sponsored by the Department annually at Eagles Nest, also participated. Two H'mong refugees from Laos, now students at Mount Olive College, spoke briefly about their faith. Afterwards, all of the young people sang a medley of all-time favorites, under the direction of Mr. Dean Kennedy. The Revs. Taylor Hill and Ray Wells concluded the service.

The offering taken during the Convention for our home and foreign mission programs totaled $25,381.85. Of this amount, $11,604.90 was given for home missions; the remaining $13,776.95 was for foreign missions.

A SUMMARY OF VARIOUS REPORTS

Executive Committee Report. The Executive Committee of the State Convention recommended that the Convention begin the 1982 session with an evangelistic thrust. Such a session would start on Tuesday night with an evangelism conference. A mass choir composed of all those who would like to participate would perform at the meeting.

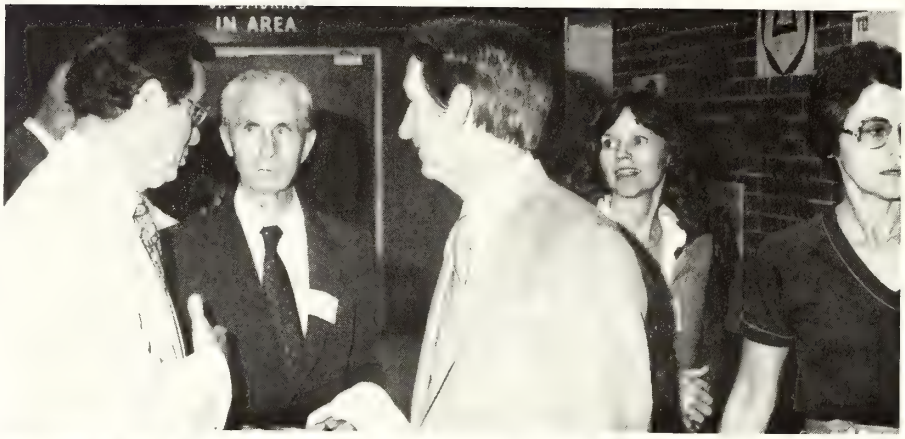
The Executive Committee also recommended the approval of the proposed *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* and that the revision be sent to the conferences of the Convention for ratification.

Upon proper motion, both recommendations passed.

Home Missions and Church Extension Department Report. Two new mission points have been started since the 1980 Convention. Advance Mission is near Winston-Salem; the second mission, Rocky Mount Mission, is co-sponsored by the Central Conference. Free Spirit and Beaufort Missions have been organized into churches. The Department asked the Convention for $100,000 for the new year. (For more information about the Department's work, see Pages 10 and 11 of this issue.)

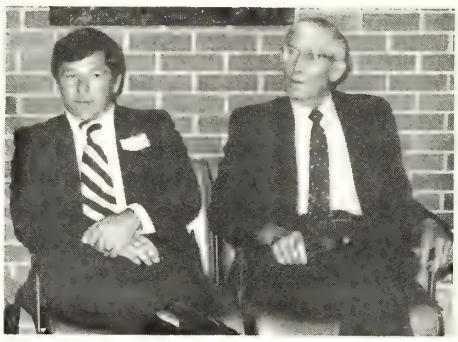


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Top left—a group discusses an issue; top right—Dr. and Mrs. Burkette Raper; bottom left—Mrs. Minnie Chandler; bottom right—two delegates.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Report. The Press is the oldest Free Will Baptist institution in North Carolina, having been in existence and serving our denomination for over one hundred years. It is the only institution in the world that publishes materials designed exclusively to be used in Original Free Will Baptist churches; it also prints the only weekly denominational paper available that carries information about the work of the North Carolina State Convention (that being *The Free Will Baptist).*

Even in a time of high interest rates and a tight money market, the Press enjoyed another successful year. The prayers of the Convention were requested.

Children's Home Report. More than sixty different children and their families were served through campus programs, foster care and specialized services (with the cooperation of other agencies) during the past year.

In giving the report, the Rev. J. B. Hardee asked that Convention member churches support the Home with gifts of $15.65 per member through their church budgets, and that churches give as liberally as possible to special projects that may arise. Unless our churches increase their giving immediately to offset losses in funding, the existing program will have to be reduced to 25 or fewer children. The Children's Home Board will also endeavor to raise an additional $52,000 from friends, quarterly letters, and miscellaneous contributions to offset losses sustained.

Stewardship Committee Report. The officers of the committee are the Rev. Jeff Scarborough, chairman; the Rev. Joe Griffith, vice-chairman; Mrs. Dola Dudley, secretary; and Mrs. Lou McLawhorn, assistant secretary. The Executive Committee will serve as a Retirement Committee, their duty being to make a study of our Retirement Homes and proposed rest home, to study our retirement program now in effect, and to bring recommendations for future growth and service to our denomination. (Mr. Peyton Lee will also serve on this committee.)

A Budget Committee has also been elected to study and prepare a suggested budget plan for local churches, setting guidelines on ministers' salaries and other benefits provided by the local church. These proposals will be made available to any church or conference who so desires. Members of this committee are the Rev. Fred Rivenbark, chairman; Miss Marice DeBruhl; the Rev. Graham Lane; and Mr. Delbert Scott.

Retirement Homes Report. It was requested that churches in the State Convention support the Retirement Homes with their prayers and support (amounting to at least $5 per member during the coming year).

The Retirement Homes Board made a motion that called for a constitutional change (Article 3, Section 23 of the Constitution and Bylaws); upon proper motion the following change was made:

1. The scope of the Free Will Baptist retirement ministries is to own, operate and maintain



The Revs. Gary Bailey and David C. Hansley discuss a matter while the Rev. Bryant Hines leads a congregational hymn.

apartments, rest homes, skilled nursing care, day care and all other facilities and services necessary or incident to the operation of such retirement ministries and to do all other things usually performed in the conduct of such ministries for the care of elderly and indigent persons.

2. It shall give an annual report to the State Convention of its achievements and needs.

Cragmont Assembly Report. Cragmont enjoyed another successful camping season. The yearly payment for the main building will be due in November and giving toward that end was encouraged.

Foreign Missions Report. The Rev. Vance Link, missionary to Mexico, and Mr. Charles Barnard, missionary candidate to the Philippines, spoke briefly about their respective work.

The Convention approved a budget of $180,000 for foreign missions for the coming year. Approval and support were also pledged for the department's new relief program (which is in conjunction with World Vision, International).

The Scouting Commission Report. Mr. Charlie Glanville, Southeast chairman of the Association of Baptists for Scouting, presented Mrs. Rose Raper a Good Shepherd and Staff recognition. An active Free Will Baptist, Mrs. Raper is "a living embodiment of moral and spiritual principles and not just a spokesperson for good." (More about this presentation can be found in the October 14 issue of *The Free Will Baptist.)*

The Scouting Commission has accepted the challenge of making our Convention the first Blue Ribbon Convention in the new Baptist "Thrust for Scouting"; the Commission has accepted the goal of forming 100 new scouting units during the next two years.

Mount Olive College Report. The Convention reaffirmed its commitment to help provide the leadership and resources required to make Mount Olive College a fully accredited senior college, with the addition of the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. Gift support of $20 per church member annually was requested.

A constitutional change was also recommended. Upon proper motion the following sentence was deleted from Article 2, Section 17 of the Constitution and By-Laws:

> "After serving two full successive terms, a member shall be ineligible to succeed himself until he has been out of office for at least one year."

North Carolina Ministerial Association Report. The Association met twice during the last year. The semi-annual Spiritual Life Conference was held in February; the Ministers' Conference was held at Cragmont in July. All ministers were urged to participate.

Superannuation Report. Regrettably, three ministers who participated in the Superannuation program died during the past year. They were the Revs. Lloyd Vernon, Hubert Burress, and J. B. Starnes. Mr. W. A. Jones, a member of the Board, also passed away.

The Superannuation program presently offers a ministerial retirement system (MRS), life insurance, a ministers' widows' fund, and health insurance (MBF).

The Convention approved a budget of $37,500 (or $2 per church member) for the coming year. Amendments 6, 7, and 8 (which were added to the MRS at the 1980 session) were also updated.

Church Finance Association Report. The Association is a non-profit membership corporation owned by churches, institutions, conferences, and individual Free Will Baptists who purchase memberships for the price of $25. All profits remain in the Association for the furtherance of the cause of Christ. They urge our churches to take at least one membership per year and use the Association for the deposit of available funds. For the year ending 12-31-80, the total memberships were $49,839.30; retained earnings were $202,605.74. The total loans as of 12-31-80 totaled $1,223,683.50; interest paid on deposits for 1980 amounted to $93,496.83.

(Turn the Page)

Sunday School Convention Report. The 1981 Convention was held April 11 at the Children's Home. A total of 65 churches represented. The fourth annual Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet was held September 11 at Mount Olive College.

Credentials Committee Report. The Committee reported that the following had registered for the Convention: 197 ordained ministers, 290 delegates, 135 visitors, 2 visiting ministers, and 3 licensed ministers, for a total of 627. By Conferences: Albemarle—9 ministers, 20 delegates; Cape Fear—21 ministers, 38 delegates; Central—40 ministers, 59 delegates; Eastern—63 ministers, 84 delegates; Pee Dee—12 ministers, 16 delegates; Piedmont—4 ministers, 3 delegates; and Western—52 ministers, 70 delegates.

Chaplains' Commission Report. The General Commission, of which we have been a member for 19 years, will go out of existence on December 31, 1981, because of inflation. Even in light of changes which lie ahead, chaplains will maintain their ecclesiastical endorsements. Questions do remain as to who will provide such endorsements and at what cost.

Another major concern is due to a lawsuit filed by two Harvard law students; the suit was filed against the armed forces, claiming that air force chaplains represent a breach with the first amendment of the United States Constitution.

Camp Vandemere Report. Camp Vandemere had a busy season. The facilities now include a fishing pier, and canoes are available to those who desire them while at camp.

Obituary Committee Report. The Committee memorialized four ministers and one layman who had passed away since the last Convention. They were the Rev. Lloyd Vernon, "a real warrior of the Cross"; the Rev. R. N. Hinnant, a man who "received his promotion to the presence of the Lord at the age of 80"; the Rev. J. B. Starnes, a man who "did what he believed in and believed in what he did"; the Rev. Hubert Burress, "a gentle man of compassion" who was "called to come up higher"; and Mr. W. A. Jones, a man "who played a very important part in his church."

The Commission on Free Will Baptist Fellowships Report. There are presently two active Free Will Baptist fellowships; one is at Mount Olive College, the other is at East Carolina University. The Rev. Craig Simmons is working to organize a fellowship at Atlantic Christian College. Future plans include starting one at Campbell University.

The Temperance Committee Report. The Committee encouraged our ministers to be good examples of unity in their conduct at all times. Recognizing the effect of alcohol and drug abuse on our society, they recommended that we continue to seek ways to minister to those affected by these and other social problems. The Committee also recommended that our churches continue to seek meaningful ways to minister to people affected by divorce and separation.

The Resolutions Committee Report. The following resolutions were adopted by the State Convention.

WHEREAS, attention has been called to the fact that persons calling themselves historians of the Free Will Baptists are soliciting historical materials under that title, and

WHEREAS, there are known to be individuals collecting their own private collections, some even for monetary gain; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: that this Convention reaffirm the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College as the depository of Free Will Baptist historical materials.

WHEREAS, the work of our Convention is of great importance, and is greatly dependent upon the work of its boards and committees; and

WHEREAS, it is possible that a person could be elected to an office, board, or committee, and not be aware of that election;

BE IT RESOLVED: that this Convention send an official notification of election to each person elected to an office, board, or committee.

WHEREAS, the Convention enjoyed Bishop Forbes so greatly, and

WHEREAS, next year the Convention will be expanded to include a Tuesday night Evangelism Conference;

BE IT RESOLVED: that we ask Bishop Forbes to bring the Convention message on Thursday, 1982.

WHEREAS, so many people labored so fervently and diligently on the revision of our *Statement of Faith and Discipline;*

BE IT RESOLVED: that our Convention express its gratitude to all the persons involved in completing the monumental task of revising our *Faith and Discipline* by a rising vote of thanks.

WHEREAS, some denominational reports are given and financial statements do not accompany them where it is appropriate;

BE IT RESOLVED: that all reports of denominational enterprises accompany a financial statement of said reports where appropriate.

WHEREAS, there have been questions in regard to the use of Free Will Baptist Sunday school literature and other literature among our churches;

BE IT RESOLVED: that we ask the Executive Committee of the State Convention to appoint a committee of representatives from the Free Will Baptist Press, the Sunday School

Convention, and the Executive Committee to study the Sunday school literature needs of our people and church, and report their findings to the Executive Committee of this Convention.

WHEREAS, there has been much interest and expressed desire to establish a denominational headquarters;

BE IT RESOLVED: that we ask the Executive Committee of the State Convention to study the feasibility of establishing and locating a headquarters, with the report on this matter to be given to the Convention in 1982. This report should also include the position of Executive Secretary.

BE IT RESOLVED: that a study be done to determine the feasibility of a new hymn book for our denomination with the following guides.

1. The committee should investigate the needs of the denomination as pertaining to a hymn book for worship.
2. The hymnal should be planned for formal and informal worship services, Sunday schools, evangelistic services, and youth meetings.
3. The hymnal should include hymns from all periods of history as well as new hymns and songs by today's gifted writers. The hymns should reflect the theological thought of our denomination.
4. The hymns should be printed in connection with the tunes that are associated with worship in the denomination churches.
5. There should be a grouping of the hymns to help a person that is selecting hymns for a certain service, occasion or season. There should be a guide for the use of hymns. Hymns should also be arranged topically and alphabetically.
6. The hymn book should include outline services for: Baptism, Communion, Washing the Saint's Feet, Ordination of a Minister, Ordination of a Deacon, Dedication of Children or a Child, a Wedding, and a Funeral. These outlines would aid the minister in preparing for worship.
7. The hymn book should include a section for Responsive Readings. Much thought should be given to the Responsive Readings so that a suitable selection can be found to aid in the development of any theme, occasion, or season.
8. It should be noted that the Responsive Readings should be arranged for Unison Readings.
9. There should also be a section set aside as a Lectionary.
10. The committee for this new hymn book should be appointed by the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The members of this committee should consist of a minister from each Conference and four other individuals at large. All members of the committee should have a knowledge and a understanding of worship and hymnology.

Nominating Committee Report. The following were elected at the Convention:

Children's Home Board: Mrs. DeWayne Eakes, James B. Hardee, C. B. Hansley.

Foreign Mission Board: Norman Ard.

Home Mission Board: Earl Glenn.

Mount Olive College Board of Trustees: Sam D. Bundy, C. Felton Godwin, Mrs. Eula Whitley, R. Clayton Everett, Fred L. Pait, John Currin Howard Jr. (unexpired term of member, 1985).

Retirement Homes Board: Mrs. DeWayne Eakes, James B. Hardee, C. B. Hansley, Daniel Barrow, Robert May.

Board of Superannuation: Daniel Barrow, Robert May (unexpired term of Mr. J. B. Starnes).

Scouting Commission: Leon Grubbs, Danny Braswell.

Layman's League Board: Raymond Gray, J. T. Beddard, Wilbur Shirley, Dallas Foreman, Alfred Moore (unexpired term of Mr Kirby, 1982), Scott Casey (unexpired term of Harry Hinson, 1983).

Commission on Free Will Baptist Fellowships: Frank Ray Harrison.

Historical Commission: Edmundo Gonzalez

Chaplain's Commission: Leonard Woodall.

Cragmont Membership Representative: Willis Wilson.

Board of Trustees: Foy Futrelle.

Free Will Baptist Press Representative: Luther Bissette.

Church Finance Membership Representative: Dewey C. Boling.

Assistant Recording Secretary: Scott Sowers (unexpired term of T. Bruce Dudley).



The Rev. Taylor Hill spoke during the Mission Rally on Wednesday night. Young people from various home mission points can be seen behind him.

NEWS & NOTES

Revival and Homecoming at St. Mary's Church

Revival services will begin at St. Mary's Church, Fleet Street, New Bern, North Carolina, on October 19, and will continue through Friday, October 23. The Rev. Craig Simmons, pastor of the First Church, Wilson, will be the guest speaker. Special music is being planned for each of the services and a nursery will be provided.

Homecoming at St. Mary's will be celebrated on Sunday, October 25. Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a.m. with morning worship at 11 a.m. The Rev. Marvin R. Waters, pastor, will deliver the homecoming sermon.

The pastor and the congregation of St. Mary's Church extend a cordial welcome to everyone for these special services.

Western Conference To Meet

The Ninety-Fifth Annual Session of the Western Conference of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet at Elwood Lane Church, Kannapolis, North Carolina, on October 15, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Hymn
9:35—Devotions, the Rev. Harry Brown
9:50—Welcome, the Rev. Wayne Watson
—Response, the Rev. Luther Bissette
—Roll Call of Ministers, Clerk
—Roll Call of Churches, Clerk
—Recognition of Visitors, Moderator
—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. Clyde Cox
—Partial Report of Credentials Committee
—Business Session
—Report of Executive Committee
10:45—Report of Children's Home
—Report of Retirement Homes
11:00—Hour of Worship
—Offering
—Special Music
—Conference Message, the Rev. Keith Cobb
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Richard Boyette
1:10—Report of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
—Report of Church Finance Association
—Report of Superannuation Board
—Report of State Convention
—Report of Foreign Missions
—Report of Carolina Bible Institute
—Report of Home Missions
—Report of Cragmont
—Report of Mount Olive College
—Report of Board of Ordination
—Report of Ministerial Character Board
—Report of Temporary Committees
—Report of Credentials Committee
—Report of Treasurer
—Final Business Session
—Closing Devotions, the Rev. Kenneth Forehand
—Adjournment

Song Leader: the Rev. Royster Martin

Pianist: Host Church

Revival Services in Progress At Christian Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress at Christian Chapel Church, Route 1, Pink Hill, and will continue through October 9. The Rev. Jerry English, Bridgeton, is the evangelist. Services begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. Ed Miles, pastor, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival Services in Progress At Grants Chapel Church

Revival services will continue through Friday, October 9, at Grants Chapel Church, Highway 55, near Mount Olive. The Rev. Mickey Whitfield is the evangelist. Services begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. W. H. Willis, pastor, and the members of Grants Chapel Church invite everyone to attend.

Fall Revival in Progress At Sound View Church

Sound View Church, near Newport, will be having revival services through October 9. The Rev. Elton Brock of Kinston is the guest evangelist. Special music is being featured each evening. The prayer rooms open each night at 7:15, with services beginning at 7:30.

The Rev. Francis Garner, pastor, cordially invites everyone to attend.

Homecoming Scheduled At Winterville Church

Winterville Church, Winterville, North Carolina, will observe homecoming on October 11. The Rev. Ed C. Taylor, pastor, will deliver the message which will be preceded by a memorial service by Alice Hines.

Plans are being made for lunch to be served at the site of the new church on Cooper Street. A ground-breaking ceremony and an outdoor gospel sing are also planned for

the afternoon at the same location.

A spirit of revival has broken out at Winterville Church and great things for the Lord are expected to continue in the future. The homecoming goal has been set for $20,000, although it is believed a record-breaking amount over this will be raised. The harvest sale, sponsored by the Christian Fellowship Class, netted $8,676.54 to be applied to this goal.

All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend homecoming. Anyone who wants to should bring a folding chair for the afternoon service, even though some, as well as other outside conveniences, will be provided.

Revival Services in Progress At Watery Branch Church

Watery Branch Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg, is having revival services. The evangelist is the Rev. Dale Albertson. Services begin each evening at 7:30 and special music is being featured nightly.

The pastor, the Rev. A. G. Smith, and the members of the church invite everyone to attend.

Revival and Homecoming At Hugo Church

Revival services are in progress through October 9 at Hugo Church, Route 2, Grifton. The Rev. Wayne King is the evangelist. Special music is being featured each evening. The services begin at 7:30 p.m.

Hugo Church will observe homecoming on Sunday, October 11. The Rev. Tom Miller, pastor, will bring the morning message. A picnic lunch will be enjoyed by all after the morning worship service.

Everyone is invited to attend these activities.

Revival Services in Progress At Tee's Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress at Tee's Chapel Church, Route 2, Smithfield. The Rev. Royster Martin is the evangelist. Services begin nightly at 7:30. The Rev. T. C. Farmer is pastor of Tee's Chapel Church.

The public is invited to the remainder of these services.

Youth Rally to Be At Spring Hope Church

A Youth for Christ Rally will be held at Spring Hope Church on Saturday night, October 10, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Revival Services to Be At Pleasant Grove Church

Revival services will be held at Pleasant Grove Church, Route 2, Pikeville, October 12 through October 16, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Gary Bailey will be guest speaker. The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor and the church congregation invite everyone to join them for these services.

Homecoming Scheduled for Johnston Union Church

Johnston Union Church, Route 1, Clayton, will be observing homecoming on Sunday, October 11. The scheduled services for that day are Sunday school, morning worship services, and dinner in the fellowship hall.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. Harold Mac Wallace from Winston-Salem. He was licensed and ordained to preach out of the Johnston Union Church. The pastor and the congregation invite everyone to attend these activities.

Upcoming Events at New Bethlehem Church

Revival services are in progress through October 9 at New Bethlehem Church, near Grantsboro, with different speakers each night. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 11, with lunch being served after the worship services. The church and pastor, the Rev. A. Graham Lane, invite all former pastors, members, and friends to attend these services.

Revival and Homecoming at Rose of Sharon Church

Revival services are being held through October 9 at Rose of Sharon Church, Bear Grass, with the Rev. David W. Hansley as guest evangelist. Services begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. The prayer room opens at 7:15 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, and the congregation cordially invite the public to attend these services.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 11, at Rose of Sharon. The pastor will bring the morning message and lunch will be spread at noon. The afternoon service will follow lunch. The New Creations from Mount Olive College will lead the afternoon service. All former church members, former pastors, and visitors are cordially invited to attend.

Homecoming at Pleasant Hill Church

Homecoming services at Pleasant Hill Church, Route 2, Pikeville, will be held on Sunday, October 18, 1981. Services will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m. The Rev. Don Kivett, the pastor, will bring the morning message at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m.

The afternoon services will begin at 1:30 p.m., with a devotional by Mrs. Bettie B. Talton. Mrs. Elizabeth Evans will bring a memorial service. This will be followed by special singing featuring the youth choir of the First Pentecostal Holiness Church of Goldsboro.

Spring Hope to Have Homecoming and Revival

Spring Hope Church, near Bridgeton, will have its homecoming on Sunday, October 11. The pastor, the Rev.

(Continued on Page 12)

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTI

Home Missions and Ch



ADVANCE MISSION, near Winston-Salem, NC, Jerry and Betty Campbell, Route 4, Box 270, Advance, NC 27006; phone 998-5766



CATALPA MISSION, Fayetteville, NC, SELF-SUPPORTING, Alton and Mary Helen Howard, 5215 Catalpa Road, Fayetteville, NC 28306; phone 424-3844; owns place of worship



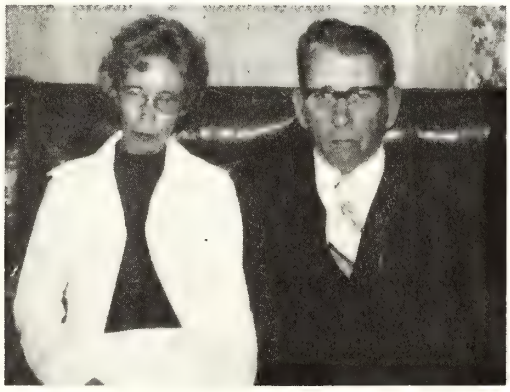
HAYMOUNT MI
SELF-SUPPORTI
Arsenal Avenue, F
485-3980 or 485-4471



FREE SPIRIT CHURCH, Wilson, NC, ORGANIZED INTO CHURCH 1980, Dale and Jasmine Albertson, Box 185, Black Creek, NC 27813; phone 291-5331; owns property on Highway 301 South; also . . . **DEAF CAMP,** Eagles Nest



HOME MISSIONS SPONSORED by the HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT



EASTOVER MISSION, Fayetteville, NC, Edward and Burlene Painter, Route 3, Box 369, Dunn, NC 28334; phone 897-6537; owns property, 5 miles north of Fayetteville on Highway 301; co-sponsored with the Cape Fear Conference



HERITAGE MISSION, Charlotte, NC, Billy and Joyce Nowell, 1439 Thermal Road, Charlotte, NC 28212; church phone (704) 563-1824



VICTORY MISSIO
SUPPORTING, Ch
Route 1, Box 65-B
424-3713; owns plac

OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Extension Department



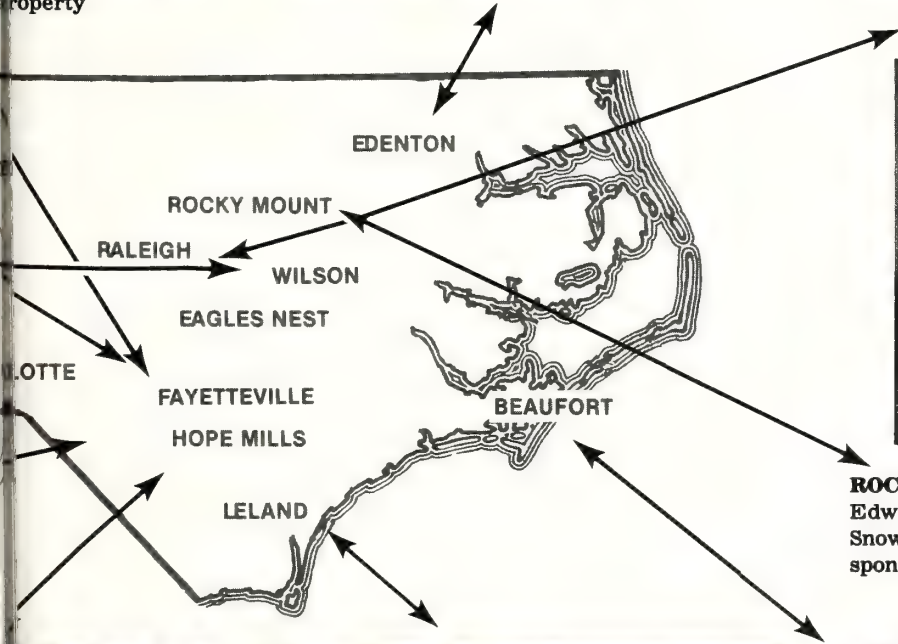
Fayetteville, NC, or and Lois Hill, 1209 lle, NC 28305; phone roperty



CAPE COLONY MISSION, Edenton, NC, Ronnie and Sherry Mohn, Box 812, Edenton, NC 27932; phone 482-8208; owns property

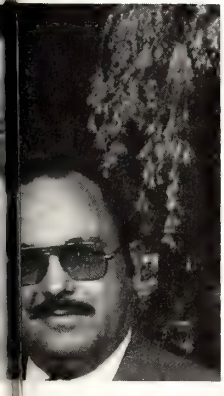


AGAPE MISSION, Raleigh, NC, Ronnie and Sue Hall, 422 Barbour Street, Clayton, NC 27520; phone 553-6070; mission, 208 St. Mary's Street





ROCKY MOUNT MISSION, Rocky Mount, NC, Edward and Brenda Thornton, Route 3, Box 22, Snow Hill, NC 28580; phone, 747-5792; co-sponsored with the Central Conference



Mills, NC, SELF- Barbara Parrish, , NC 28371; phone nip



FAITH MISSION, Leland, NC, Luther and Pennie Swinson, Route 1, Box 155-A, Maple Hill, NC 28454; phone 346-8132; co-sponsored with the Eastern Conference



BEAUFORT FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST, Beaufort, NC, ORGANIZED INTO CHURCH 1981, James and Dean Gurganus, Route 3, Box 64, Newport, NC 28570; phone 223-5251; owns property; co-sponsored with the Eastern Conference

News and Notes

(Continued from Page 9)

Grady Tucker, will deliver the homecoming sermon. Dinner will follow the morning service.

The revival will begin on Monday, October 12, and will continue through October 16. Prayer room opens at 7 p.m. The Rev. Cedric Pierce of Black Jack Church will be the evangelist for the revival services. The pastor will assist him. Special singing will be featured nightly and a nursery will be provided.

Homecoming at Mount Tabor Church

Mount Tabor Church near Creswell, North Carolina, will hold its annual homecoming on October 11, 1981. The Rev. Ed Miles of Goldsboro will bring the homecoming message, with lunch being served at noon.

A singspiration will follow in the afternoon featuring the Prescott family from New Bern. The pastor, the Rev. Dewitt Cleve, and the church membership invite all former pastors, former members, and friends to attend the homecoming.

Folkstone Church to Have Homecoming and Revival

Folkstone Church, Holly Ridge, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 11. At 11 a.m., the Rev. David W. Hansley, pastor of Daly's Chapel Church, Kinston, will bring the morning message followed by lunch in the fellowship hall. A singspiration is scheduled for the afternoon at 2 p.m. with choirs from visiting churches.

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 12 and will continue through October 16, at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist is the Rev. Harold Swinson, pastor of Mount Zion Church, Beulaville. There will be special singing. A nursery will be provided.

The pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

St. Mary's Church Has Homecoming

On Sunday, September 13, St. Mary's Church of Route 3, Kenly, celebrated its 34th homecoming day.

The morning message was brought by the Rev. Floyd Cherry. The homecoming dinner was served in the church fellowship building. There was a singspiration in the afternoon by the Watchman's Quartet.

The theme for the celebration was "Soldiers of the Cross," which honored and memorialized the former pastors of the church from 1932-1980. It was through this theme that appreciation was shown for their love and faithfulness, as well as their many prayers and outstanding progress which has been made, all possible because of their untiring hours and dedicated work given to the church and community. The church is happy to have had these able men to serve them: The Revs. James A. Evans, 1932-1938; Herman Wooten, 1938-1942; Walter Williams, 1943-1947; G. C. Joyner, 1947-1953; Boyd Shook, 1954-1962; J. C. Yates, 1962-1971; Davie Brinson, 1971-1973; and Leslie Hawley, 1974-1980.

Upcoming Events at Pleasant Plain Church

Revival services are in progress through October 9 at Pleasant Plain Church near Selma. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Ashley Turner, pastor of Branch Chapel Church near Selma is the guest speaker.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 11, with Sunday school beginning at 10 a.m. and the morning worship services at 11 a.m. The pastor of the church, the Rev. Ernie Price, will bring the morning message. Lunch will be served at noon. A memorial service and singspiration will begin approximately at 1:30 p.m. The pastor invites everyone to attend these services.

Homecoming at Sandy Plain Church

Sandy Plain Church, Route 2, Pink Hill, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 18. The Rev. Stephen Smith will be the guest speaker at the 11 a.m. worship hour.

A picnic lunch will be served at noon and everyone is invited. The Rev. Ransom McAbee is the pastor of the church.

Reedy Branch Church Honors Pastor

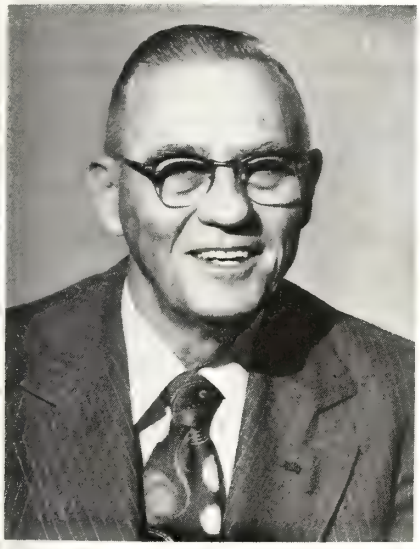
On Saturday, September 19, Reedy Branch Sunday school and Church honored the Rev. and Mrs. Willis Wilson with a surprise "love feast."

The Willis Wilson Sunday School Class hosted the occasion. A pig picking was catered by Parker's Barbecue. The Women's Auxiliary of the church prepared the dessert.

Earl Deal acted as master of ceremonies. When Mr. Wilson, better known as Willis, entered the fellowship building everyone sang, "He's a Jolly Good Fellow." After supper, the people were given the opportunity to stand and express their appreciation of Willis. He was presented two red roses to show that people give roses now and not when it is too late. Mrs. Wilson was also presented red roses. They were also remembered with a lovely desk set from the Reedy Branch Sunday school, made by Marilyn Davenport.

Many of his family members were also present.

Revival Services to Be At Ormondsville Church



The Rev. C. L. Patrick

Revival services will be held at Ormondsville Church near Ayden, October 11 through October 15. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Jack Mayo and the Rev. C. L. Patrick will be the guest evangelist.

Homecoming Services at Pine Level Church

Pine Level Church, Pine Level, North Carolina, announces its annual homecoming services, which are scheduled for Sunday morning, October 11. A memorial service will be held during the morning worship hour, and special music will be presented by the youth choir and the adult choir. The pastor, the Rev. Donald Coates, will bring the morning message. Following the service, lunch will be served in the church's Christian Life Center. All former pastors, former members, and friends of the church are invited to take part in the activities of the day.

Revival in Progress At Grimsley Church

Revival services are in progress through October 9 at Grimsley Church, near Maury. The Rev. Jack Mayo is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:45 p.m.

Homecoming will be observed on October 11. The Rev. Don Fader, pastor, will be the speaker for the occasion. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Homecoming and Revival At Owens Chapel Church

Owens Chapel Church, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 11, with a former pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson, bringing the morning message. A picnic lunch will be served on the church grounds.

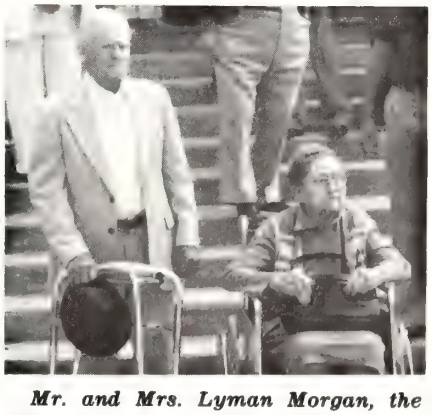
Revival services will begin on Monday, October 12 and will continue through Saturday, October 17, at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Rex Edwards. There will be special singing. The pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH ENJOYS RETREAT WEEKEND



For eight consecutive years, members of Friendship Church, Farmville, have enjoyed a weekend at Cragmont. This year was no exception, for over 80 people attended a retreat held September 10-13.

All who attended can attest to the unique spirit of fellowship which exists during such a weekend. Besides fellowship, but in no way subordinate, were times spent in devotional studies and worship.



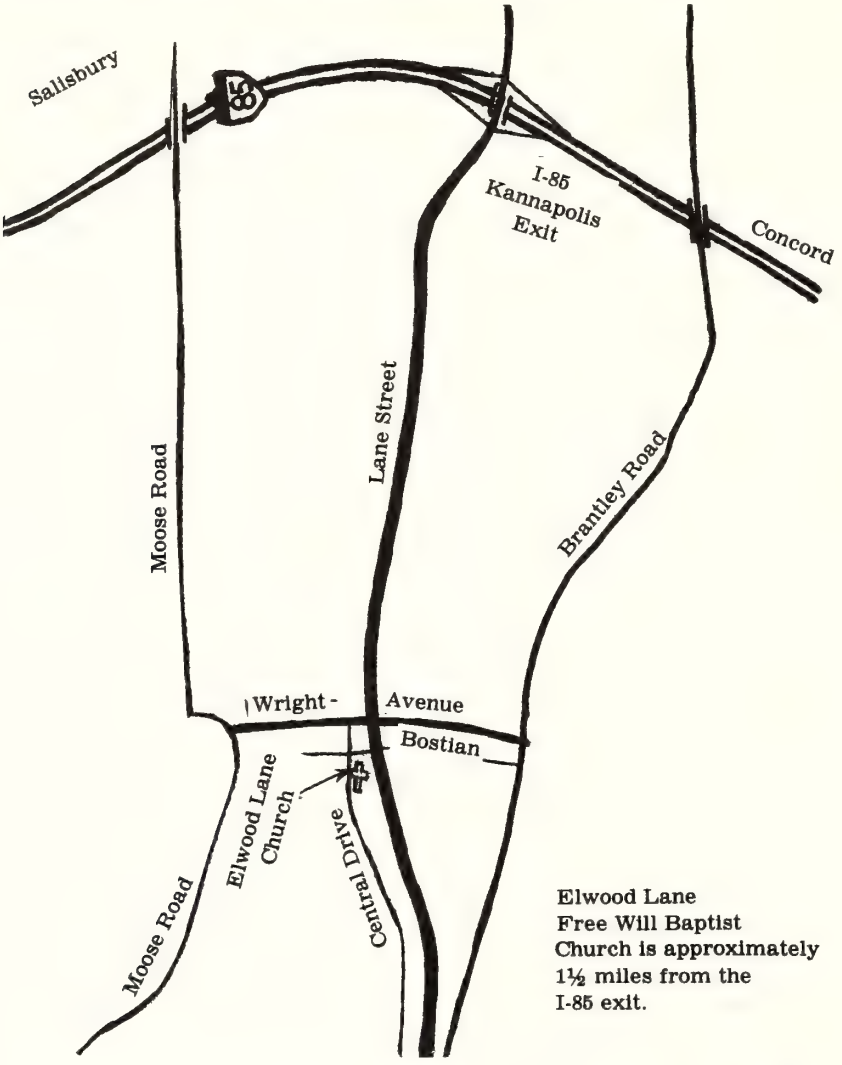
Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Morgan, the oldest members on the retreat

While appreciating and benefitting from the serious group meetings, there were "fun times" and the group also traveled to Tweetsie Railroad in Boone.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of the church, related that the group experienced a good time in Christian fellowship and spiritual edification.

WESTERN CONFERENCE TO MEET

The Western Conference will meet on October 15, 1981, at Elwood Lane Church, in Kannapolis, North Carolina. A list of motels and a map to the church is provided below:



Center Motel, 1503 N. Cannon Blvd., Kannapolis, NC, 932-4565 ($16 for one or two persons)

Colonial Motel, 1325 Highway 29 North, Concord, NC, 782-2146 ($18.72 one person, $28 for two)

Days Inn Motel, I-85 and Highway 73, Concord, NC, 786-9121 ($22.72 one person, $27.92 for two)

Holiday Inn, 1601 Highway 29 North, Concord, NC, 786-5181 ($29 one person, $34 for two)

Revival and Homecoming At Pearsall Chapel Church

Pearsall Chapel Church, Route 1, Kenansville, North Carolina, began revival services on October 5 and will continue them through October 9. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Ronnie Parker.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 11. The Mount Olive College Chorus will be featured in the afternoon. A cordial welcome is extended to everyone to attend.

Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention to Meet

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will celebrate its 50th year when it meets at Corinth Church, Jamesville, on October 15, 1981. The theme of the convention will be "Seeking Greater Knowledge Through God's Word." The Scripture will be taken from Proverbs 2:6. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Standing on the Promises"
—Devotions, Mrs. Ercie Waters
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Faye Davis
—Response, Mrs. Lewellen Wallace
—President's Greetings, Miss Becky Jo Sumner
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Mission News, Home and Foreign
—Offering for Missions
—Hymn, "Give of Your Best to the Master"
11:00—Children's Home and Retirement Homes Reports
11:15—Recognition of 50 Year Members
—Special Music
11:30—Message, Dr. Burkette Raper
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Wonderful Words of Life"
—Prayer
1:05—History of Albemarle Convention: 50 Years
1:20—Memorial Services, Mrs. Katie Roper
1:35—Mount Olive College Report
1:50—Cragmont News
2:05—News from the Press
2:20—Youth Report, Mrs. Wally Hargrove
2:25—Committee Reports
—Treasurer's Report
—Announcement of Next Convention
—Benediction and Adjournment

(Continued on Page 18)

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Howell Swamp Church on Sunday, October 11, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college. The pastor is the Rev. Joseph Lehmann.

CHARLES BARNARD TO SPEAK AT MOC

Charles Barnard will address students and faculty at Mount Olive College on Tuesday, October 20, at 11 a.m. in Rodgers Chapel.

Charles and his wife Jackie will be serving as missionaries to the Philippines under the Foreign Mission Board of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Charles has served some time in the Philippines with the United States Air Force.

MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM A FRUITFUL INVESTMENT

editorial comment
by Mary Susan Yates

How could a supporter double or triple his gift support to Mount Olive College?

The answer is by working for one of the large number of public-spirited firms and industries which match the gifts of their employees to colleges like Mount Olive. Approximately 600 firms have matching gifts programs that include junior colleges.

A company participating in this program will contribute $1 for every $1 donated by their employees. Some companies will contribute $2 for every $1 contributed by their employees. An employee can literally double his dollars.

It is impossible to evaluate an investment in higher education. However, the employee can be assured that his donation has been multiplied by the number of students touched by the gift. The funds from the matching gifts program are used to support the student education fund at Mount Olive College.

A goal of $35,000 from the matching gifts program has been approved by the board of trustees. This is a highly realistic goal based on the amount contributed by donors and companies which totaled $28,614 during 1980-81.

Some of the major firms which participate in this program are as follows: Blue Bell Foundation, Burlington Industries Foundation, Burroughs Wellcome Company, Carolina Power and Light Company, Collins and Aikman Corporation, Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, Eaton Corporation, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, GTE Products Corporation, Montgomery Ward, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph, Squibb Corporation, Texasgulf, Wachovia Bank, Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation, Wickes Corporation, Winn-Dixie Stores Foundation.

Information and forms are usually available through the personnel or community relations department of the company. If further assistance is needed, the College will be glad to help in securing information.

Mount Olive College will be glad to furnish a complete list of participating companies upon request.

1981 DINNERS FOR MOC

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Tuesday, October 13, 7:30 p.m., First Church of Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, Chairman. Goal: $5,500

Greene County, Saturday, October 17, 7 p.m., West Greene School, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal: $9,775

Nash County, Tuesday, October 20, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal: $3,875

Craven County, Monday, October 26, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle High School, Miss Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal: $9,250

Wayne County, Tuesday, October 27, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, Chairman. Goal: $17,650

Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick Counties, Thursday, October 29, 7 p.m., Folkstone Church, O. B. Taylor, Chairman. Goal: $1,525

Wilson County, Tuesday, November 10, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School, James B. Hunt, Chairman. Goal: $15,450

Beaufort County, Saturday, November 14, 7 p.m., Chocowinity High School, Steve Hargrove, Chairman. Goal: $7,250

Sampson, Harnett, and *Cumberland Counties,* Thursday, November 19, 7 p.m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: $7,125

Pamlico County, Saturday, November 21, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, Chairman. Goal: $5,750

Duplin County, Saturday, October 31, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School, Fitzgerald Bostic, Chairman. Goal: $9,900

Johnston-Wayne Counties, Monday, November 2, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton, Leonard B. Woodall and Mike Scott, Co-Chairmen. Goal: $24,000

Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, and *Chowan Counties,* Thursday, November 5, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper, David Cahoon, Chairman. Goal: $5,475



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Scripture Reading—Revelation 22

90 MILLION KILLED SINCE CENTURY BEGAN

At the twenty-first session of the International Congress of the Red Cross, September 6, 1969, it was reported that more than 90 million people had been killed in wars since the twentieth century began; 2 trillion dollars reportedly had been spent on armaments; 130 conflicts on 5 continents had been waged.

Said Jose Barroso of Mexico, Red Cross League chairman, "If we continue on this road of violence, our century will figure in history as the most humiliating in the existence of the human race!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Myriads of God's children around the world yearn for the soon return of "The Prince of Peace," the Saviour, and His righteous reign. Their response to His promise, "Surely I come quickly," is, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 1

"THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF THE FATHER"

The German sculptor Dannecker wrought on a statue of Christ for eight years.

Calling a little child into his studio, Dannecker asked, "Who is that?"

The child answered, "A great man!"

The sculptor was disappointed.

He asked a second child who gazed intently at the statue, "Who is that?"

The child answered softly, "It is the One who said, 'Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me" (Matthew 19:14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Some see in Christ only a good man. Others see in Him "The brightness of His (God's) glory, and the express image of His person . . ." (Hebrews 1:3), *and submissively exclaim, "My Lord and my God"* (John 20:28).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

Scripture Reading—Luke 24:13-35

LATENT UNBELIEF SURFACED

Dr. Robert Alley, Professor of Religion at the University of Richmond, Virginia, said, "We have students who are not going to pay lip service to the narrow orthodoxy of the past. Indeed our greatest concern is the [damaging] image of the ministry cast by preachers like Dr. A. W. Criswell." (His book *Why I Preach That the Bible Is Literally True* has exposed latent unbelief in some churchmen.)

Referring to the Book of Jonah, Dr. Alley said, "If the author of that story were to step into the world today and discover that anybody was accepting him word for word, I have a feeling that he'd just collapse from laughter!"

God's Son, Jesus Christ, placed His imprimatur upon the story of Jonah when He said, "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Would He not say to the unbelievers today: "O, fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken" (Luke 24:25)?

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Scripture Reading—Psalm 18

GOOD OUT OF DISASTER

Some years ago, in the western cape region of South Africa, the ground heaved and split wide open. Terror gripped the natives. Houses were demolished! Many lives were lost!

Some asked, "Can any good come out of a calamity with such widespread loss?"

Good did come. After the devastating earthquake, springs gushed up overnight. Old boreholes sprang to life and long dried-up river beds became rushing watercourses. Widespread parched areas became verdant with grasses.

God, in goodness and mercy, sometimes allows seeming disaster to befall His children that they may learn the sufficiency of His sustaining grace. Like a potter, he reshapes marred, broken vessels into vessels of beauty and enduring grandeur.

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . let the God of my salvation be exalted (Psalm 18:46).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Scripture Reading – Psalm 19

INDIAN SUMMER

The poignant hush and the blue haze of Indian summer when the cornstalks stand like sentinels guarding the yellow pumpkins upon the ground; the graceful lines of a startled deer as it stands poised to run when I invade its private sanctuary; millions of stars dotting the canopy of Heaven on a night when frost nips the air; wisps of smoke curling from chimneys and the contented happy sounds of living coming from the homes I pass as I walk down the street in the twilight; autumn leaves casting a cloak of many colors over the hillsides; a tawny squirrel peering at me from the crotch of a tree, his bushy tail waving like a warning flag to tell me he has staked his claim to this tree where he has hidden his store of food for winter—for all this, and much more, oh, God, give us eyes to see, and ears to hear! One lifetime is not long enough in which to drink in all this loveliness!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork (Psalm 19:1).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Scripture Reading – Luke 13:1-10

SCAT!

A farmer made six holes in his door as exits for his six cats.

A friend asked, "Why do you make six holes in the door? One hole would have been enough."

The farmer replied with emphasis, "When I say 'scat' I mean scat!"

When the Lord says, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:5), He means exactly what He says.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember that "the law of the LORD is perfect converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple" (Psalm 19:7).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Scripture Reading – Romans 6

CAUGHT IN HIS OWN TRAP

A Texas storekeeper got tired of thieves breaking into his store, so he rigged up a 12-gauge shotgun to shoot anybody who entered after hours. One morning he came to work, forgot to disengage the trap, opened the door, and shot himself. As he stumbled to the counter where he died, he gasped, "I have shot myself!"

Sin ends up killing the one who practices sinning: "His own iniquity shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his own sins" (Proverbs 5:22).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sin pays wages—death: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Billy R. Nowell has a new address. It is 1439 Thermal Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28212; phone 537-5248. His old address was Route 2, Box 386, Clayton, North Carolina 27520.

He is the former pastor of Powhatan Church, but is now pastoring Heritage Mission.

Fourth Annual Banquet Held

submitted by Joe Crumpler



The State Sunday School Convention held its fourth annual Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet Friday night, September 11, in the downtown auditorium at Mount Olive College. The pastors, superintendents, and their guests (we have female superintendents, too!) were served a delicious meal by Mrs. Fannie Rose and her fine staff.

The program began with remarks by Mr. Stanley Jenkins, president of the Convention. Following his remarks, those present were privileged to hear a quartet comprised of members of the General Youth Conference staff at Cragmont Assembly. Members of the quartet were the Revs. Harry Grubbs, Craig Simmons, Bryant Hines, and David Hines. They sang old favorites, as well as contemporary songs of faith.

The featured speaker was Mr. Linwood Smith, general superintendent of the Sunday school program at Stoney Creek Church, near Goldsboro. His topic was "Burnout," a result of stress common to ministers and those in Christian vocations.

(Questionnaires were sent out with the invitations to the banquet. Please complete and return them to the Rev. Chris Singleton, Box 162, Beulaville, NC 28518. Superintendents, if you did not receive one, or if your copy was misplaced, he will be glad to send you another copy.)

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 14)

Cape Fear Women To Meet

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Bethel Church, near Four Oaks, on October 14, 1981. The theme will be "Walk by Faith, Not by Sight." The Scripture will be taken from Hebrews 10:23. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Faith Is the Victory"
—Devotion, Jean McLendon
—Welcome, Adele Narron
—Response
—President's Remarks, Grace Barbour
—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call
—Appointment of Committees
10:45—Hymn, "Take Time to Be Holy"
—Report of Children's Home
—Report of Foreign Missions
11:15—Special Music, St. Mary's Ladies Trio
—Offering
—Convention Message, the Rev. Philip Wood

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Standing on the Promises"
—Life Membership Award
—Special Music, Anna Laura Hardee
1:20—Reports:
—Youth Chairman
—Mount Olive College
—Home Missions
—Free Will Baptist Press
—Cragmont Assembly
—Superannuation
2:00—Business Session
—Hymn, "I Am Thine, O Lord"
—Adjournment
—Benediction

Song Leader: Retha Lee
Pianist: Anna Laura Hardee

FOREIGN MISSIONS DIRECTOR RESIGNS

The Foreign Missions Board of the North Carolina State Convention accepted the resignation of the Rev. Joseph Ingram as director-treasurer in its meeting September 22. His term will end on December 15 when he will assume the pastorate of Unity Church in Wilson.

Director Ingram has served as director of the foreign missions program since 1967, and it is with sincere regret that the board accepts this resignation. Ingram's statement to the board was as follows:

"For some time I have considered returning to the pastorate. I feel that God has given direction in this and thus I offer my resignation as director-treasurer of the Foreign Mission work. This is to be effective September 15, 1981. According to our agreement, this is to be a 90-day notice and will be completed on December 15, 1981.

"It has been a joy for the past fourteen years working in the capacity of director-treasurer. There have been many blessings in my life because you have allowed me to serve in this capacity. For this I am and will ever be grateful to you.

"You have my full support and cooperation during the next few months in the transition and my continued support to the cause of the Great Commission."

The Foreign Missions board is now in the process of searching for Ingram's successor. Your prayers in our behalf will be deeply appreciated.

C. F. Bowen, *Chairman*
Foreign Missions Board

NOTICES

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet on Tuesday, October 13, at 9:30 a.m., at Piney Grove Church near Kenly, North Carolina. Anyone having business with the board is asked to contact Ray Wells at 243-6498.

Ray Wells

It has come to the attention of the Foreign Mission Board that the Rev. J. E. Timmons has suffered a heart attack. Mr. Timmons was in intensive care, but has been moved, as his condition is improved. Prayer is requested for him and his family and all correspondence should be sent to him at Room 430, Mercy Hospital, Laredo, Texas 28040.

Our Apologies . . .

The following pictures were exchanged in the September 16, 1981, issue of *The Free Will Baptist*. Our apologies go to all those involved.







The Rev. and Mrs. James Lupton and Guy Bedford, Chairman of the Deacon Board at Pleasant Grove Church. Mr. Lupton retired as pastor in July.

The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby R. Taylor, and Stephen; and Guy Bedford. Mr. Taylor is the new pastor of the church.

N. C. Free Will Baptist State Convention

Board of Superannuation
REV. WALTER REYNOLDS, Director-Treasurer
P.O. Box 474, Ayden, NC 28513

TO: Co-Workers in Original Free Will Baptist Churches
SUBJECT: "Superannuation Month"

Dear Co-Workers:

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has a Board of Superannuation charged with the responsibility of organizing and unifying all superannuation work throughout the State Convention. This includes the responsibility of providing a program for the aged, and infirm ministers, as well as active ministers.

Through the years the Board, with the limited support it has received, has sought to discharge its responsibility faithfully; and now we believe that it has a program adequate to meet the needs of the ministry in our church.

We depend on the ministers to participate in the program offered; however, we have recommended for many years that the churches support their pastor and provide for him the benefits offered. Also, in order to provide this program the Board will need the continued support of our churches through their generous contributions. This is our program, yours and mine, and it will only be what we make it through our cooperation and support.

The annual State Convention approved a budget for the coming year in the amount of $37,500 based upon $2 per member of the churches.

Prayer is requested for the work of Superannuation and for the members of the Board.

Remember that **October is Superannuation Month** and send your contributions for this cause.

For further information write North Carolina Board of Superannuation, Box 474, Ayden, NC 28513.

Respectfully,

Walter Reynolds

Walter Reynolds



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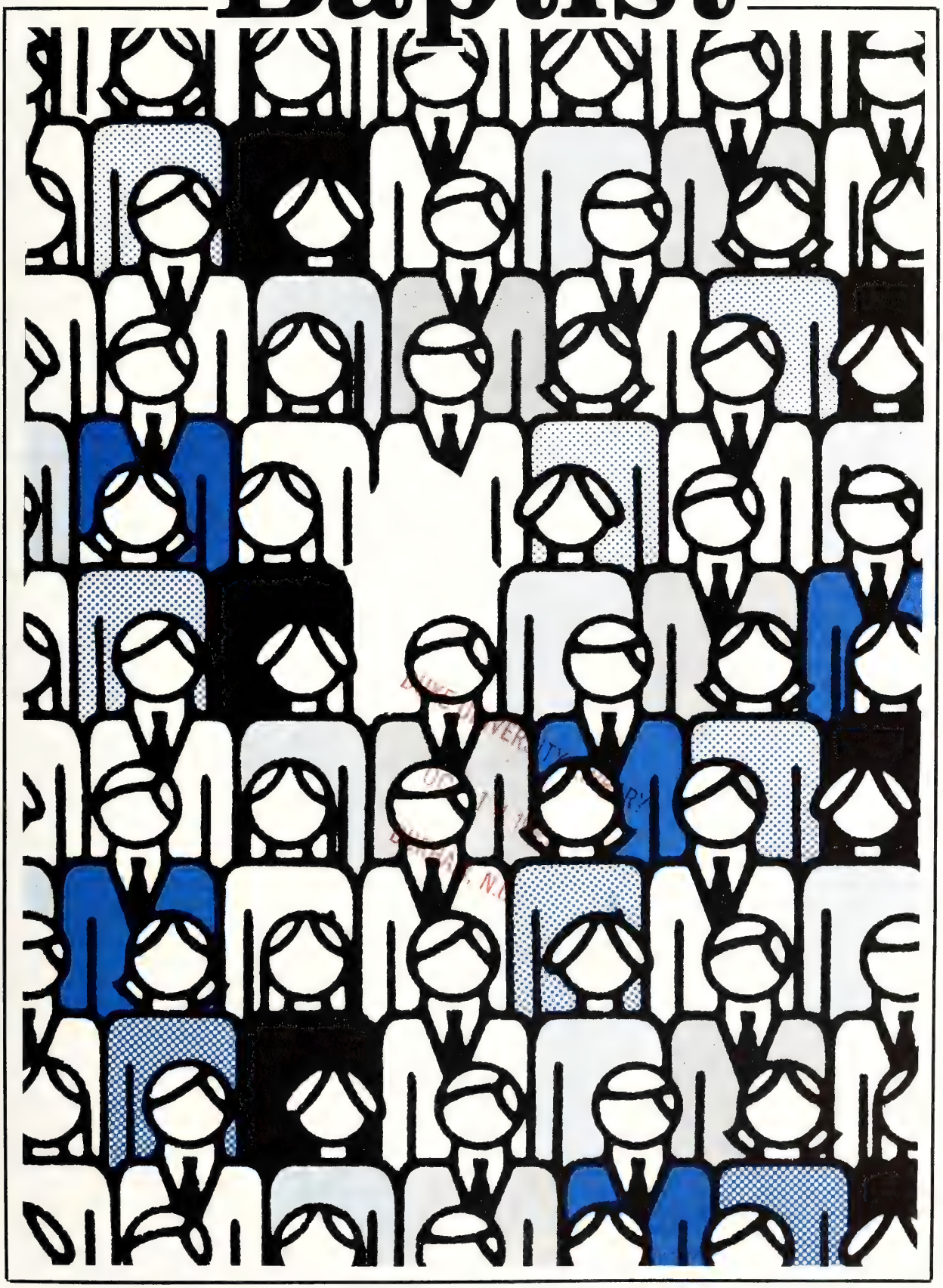
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The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

When One Is Greater

It has been quite a few years since I joyously announced, "Daddy, I know my ABCs!" This major intellectual achievement was preceded by a seemingly less monumental accomplishment; I learned to count from one to ten. At a young age I prided myself in having ten pennies and not just one. I knew that jumping seven feet was a greater feat than merely hopping two. But I have come to the realization that numbers can be deceiving. For example, did you know that one can be greater than ten? Well, it can be.

One is greater than ten when ten people function as one group working toward one specific goal. One united nation possesses more power and strength than 220 million anarchists. A team playing together harmoniously is more to be desired than a group with one "superstar"—especially with one superstar who won't play unless he gets all the glory! In other words, "the whole is greater than the sum of the individual parts." A blend of individual parts enables the group or body to do something that no one member can do as well.

In the Scriptures, unity is said to be one of the highest priorities for God's people. Jesus himself defined its purpose: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe in me through their word; That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me" (John 17:20, 21).

Unity requires a oneness of heart, a common faith, aimed at one specific end. As Christians, we should be united for the purpose of bringing others to Him. But merely being human or Christian doesn't make us one; **and** unity is possible in spite of any existing barrier.

Let's consider a pile of bricks and a house. A pile of bricks possesses uniformity; all the bricks look alike, but they lack unity. A group of individuals may be like a brick pile; and I'm sad to say that too many churches are; too many preachers are merely keepers of brickyards!

When bricks are taken and properly cemented together into a well-constructed house, one whose purpose is to provide shelter, the bricks have a unity of purpose. How ironic! God calls His people "living stones." By the Spirit of God, Christians have a oneness of purpose and design. It is quite important that our unity as Christians be based first on our relationship with Jesus Christ. It is only then that we can be what we should be and do what we should do.

(Do you sometimes feel like a loose brick? As though no one would care if you missed church Sunday? As though no one would notice if you never darkened the doors of a church again? Take heart; God notices loose bricks and holes in brick piles.)

When is one greater than ten? When ten people are united and obedient to the commands of God. Unity must be a reality for us today. The Word of God directs us accordingly, the

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The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 96 Number 38

October 14, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice-President; Robert May, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Dewey C. Boling, and Willis Wilson.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

THE PRICE WE SHOULD PAY FOR BEING FREE WILL BAPTISTS

by the Rev. Donald A. Coates

IN Ephesians 2:19-22, the church is compared to a building. Each stone of the building gives support to the other. And the entire structure is dependent upon Christ, the Cornerstone, for its design and strength.

The same can be said of our denomination. Each church gives support to the other as they labor together for God's work. And Christ is our guide and source of power. Thus, every church is important—each church has a job to do.

In turn, that means that each individual is important to the work of the denomination, for the local church is dependent upon the work of its individual members.

A great deal was accomplished at the recent State Convention, and many important goals were set for our denomination. As we look at these goals, we see that there is much work to be done. That means that for our denomination to reach the goals it has set for itself, there is a price to pay.

The convention voted to begin next year's meeting with an evangelism conference on the Tuesday night before the session. This decision grew out of an increasing awareness that there are many outside of the fold of God. What's more, it has become clear that as Free Will Baptists, we have not been doing all that we should be doing to win those who are lost. Hopefully, by beginning our convention on an evangelistic note, we will be motivated to go out and win the lost in our communities to Christ. And in so doing, we can make them a part of the church—the body of believers. Thus, our denomination stands on the verge of a type of "population explosion." If we will but do our part as members, many new "babes in Christ" will be born within the ranks of the Free Will Baptist Church. This would prove to be an asset to the local congregation, the denomination, and the work of Christ in general.

It has become obvious that there is a shortage of qualified, spirit-filled ministers within our denomination. Something must be done to offer those who feel God's calling a chance to be enlightened and educated. Fortunately, our college at Mount Olive is continuing to seek to meet our needs in this respect. With the support of all Free Will Baptists, our college will soon obtain four-year status. In doing so, greater avenues of service will be opened to those who desire to serve God in the gospel ministry. An advisory committee has worked hard to assist in formulating the four-year curriculum for the religion department at Mount Olive. Because of the work of this committee, once an individual takes advantage of the program of study which will be available to him, he will come away enlightened and more knowledgeable concerning his duties and responsibilities as a minister of the gospel. This is quickly becoming a reality. Our denomination stands on the threshold of the time when its ministers can receive a great amount of their educational guidance without having to go outside the ranks of Free Will Baptists to do so. Let us continue to pray that God will send us men that are willing to avail themselves of this educational opportunity.

The convention expressed its desire for the Sunday school needs of our churches to be studied closely. A committee from the State Sunday School Convention and the Free Will Baptist Press will be formed to study the needs of our Sunday schools and what steps should be taken to meet these needs. Such an endeavor is basic to the work of Christ as performed by Free Will Baptists. How can we expect our churches to be in the center of God's will if superior Christian education is not being taught in our Sunday schools? It is hoped that this committee will act quickly to ensure that what

(Turn the Page)

is taught in our Sunday schools will be presented in a manner that will better equip the student to be a more devoted servant of Christ in the church and in the world.

It was also recognized at the convention that our hymnals need to be updated in order that they might better serve us in our worship services. A committee is to be formed to draw up plans for a new hymnal. Attention will be paid to our heritage as Free Will Baptists and the songs which are a part of that heritage, music written by the spirit-led song writers of today, and responsive readings that will serve to enlighten and inspire those who recite them. The better the hymnal, the better equipped we are to properly worship our Lord. Our denomination has finally recognized that the hymnal is more than just a "songbook"—it is an aid to worship.

During the convention, the committee which has been working so faithfully on the revision of our Statement of Faith and Discipline presented its work, and the convention voted to recommend the revision to the conferences for ratification. This is indeed a great step for us to take. For years, many have voiced the need for a revision of our stated beliefs and practices, Finally, we have available to us a document that states clearly what we believe and how we seek to live as Christians. Hopefully, this revision will be adopted and accepted as it is presented to the conferences.

These are just a few of the important decisions made at the State Convention this year. In addition: a budget of $100,000 was adopted for the Home Missions work; a budget of $451,000 was adopted for the Children's Home; a budget of $180,000 was adopted for the Foreign Missions work; a budget of $37,500 was adopted for the Board of Superannuation. The work of the Retirement Homes Board will eventually be expanded to include rest homes, nursing homes, day care, etc. And steps are being taken to secure a central headquarters for our denomination.

All of these are great ideas and wonderful goals, but as we said, they all come with a price tag. What is the price we should be willing to pay as Free Will Baptists?

(A) Loyalty: Stick with the denomination. Don't get discouraged or downhearted and move to a larger, more prestigious group. Above all, don't try to destroy what is being done. Your loyalty is needed.

(B) Dependability: Do your part on the local level. Let your pastor know that you are ready to do the work which keeps the local church alive. After all, our denomination is only as strong as its member churches.

(C) Involvement: Don't sit back and say "The work of the denomination (or conference, or union meeting, or Ladies Auxiliary or Youth Rally) is not my concern." Make it your concern! Make sure that your church is represented and heard.

(D) Contributions: Let us never be stingy as individuals or as churches when it comes to supporting God's work through the denomination. We should make our church known as one that is willing to sacrifice so that God's work can continue to be done. It was estimated at the convention that, financially, the goals established by our denomination could be supported by contributions of approximately $50 per year per member.

There is a bright future available to our church through our support of the work of Original Free Will Baptists. A lack of participation in the work which lies ahead would only mean that we would miss great opportunities of growth and blessings.

When we look at where we've been, and see where we can go, the price we should pay for being Free Will Baptists is truly a great bargain!

Ministers and delegates talk during the 1981 sesson of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Now history, the Convention was the best ever.

Pictures were taken at the Convention by J. A. Hudson, and Scott and Janie Sowers.



Mrs. Rose Raper Becomes Good Shepherd Cross and Staff Award Recipient

Mr. Charlie Glanville, Southeast chairman of the Association of Baptists for Scouting (ABS), presented Mrs. Rose Raper a Good Shepherd Cross and Staff recognition during the 1981 session of the State Convention.

After bringing greetings from his church, Virginia Baptists, and the ABS, he began his presentation; "There will be a national Thrust of Scouting ministries in Baptist churches during 1982-83. We are very blessed to have this great State Convention, which last February kicked off our Thrust and is heading the parade of participants.

"It is now my privilege to recognize one of your distinguished members with the Good Shepherd Cross and Staff recognition. Your own Mrs. Rose Raper is the type of committed Christian churchman that does honor to the Cross and Staff recognition. Her pastor, the Rev. Frank Ray Harrison, put it all in perspective, 'She is loyal and faithful to her Lord in and out of church.' Mrs. Raper is one of the best Good Shepherd types in our nation.

"We are blessed to have a Christian Scouter like Mrs. Raper to be recognized with the Good Shepherd Cross and Staff. May I mention a few highlights of her service: Cub Scout leader—local, district, and council; the mother of an Eagle Scout who also earned the God and Country and Order of the Arrow honors; the treasurer and clerk of Mount Olive Church; she is 'the living embodiment of moral and spiritual principles and not just a spokeswoman for God.'



The Rev. David Charles Hansley and Mrs. Rose Raper

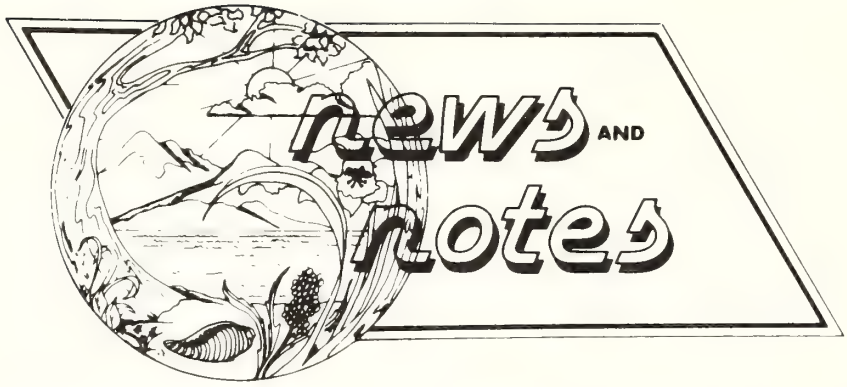
We know that Jesus is **the** Good Shepherd who knows His sheep. We thank God that Mrs. Raper is living the Christlike life, especially for our youth!"

The Good Shepherd Cross and Staff award is a new national recognition for adult Scouters and pastors who are Baptists. It is made available through the ABS, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America. Its purpose is to acknowledge distinguished service rendered by Baptist laypersons and pastors. Less than 1% of 100,000 Scouters who are Baptist have received the Good Shepherd to date.



The Scouting Commission of the North Carolina State Convention has accepted the challenge of making our Convention the first Blue Ribbon Convention in the new Baptist Thrust for Scouting. To achieve this goal, 100 new Scouting units must be formed during the next two years.

The Commission hosted a dinner during the State Convention. (More details of this meeting will be given in a forthcoming issue of *The Free Will Baptist.)* Pictured to the left are some of those who attended the meeting. In the forefront are Jamie Buck and his mother, Mrs. Barbara Buck; the Rev. David Charles Hansley and Scott Beamon are talking with them.



Homecoming and Revival At Bethany Church

On Sunday, October 18, at 11 a.m., Bethany Church, Route 1, Winterville, will observe its annual homecoming service. Tribute will be paid to those who have labored faithfully in the church through the years, and there will be a memorial service for those who have died during the past year. The Rev. C. L. Patrick will deliver the homecoming message. All former pastors, members, and friends are urged to attend this homecoming service. The nursery will be open from 10 a.m. until noon. Lunch will be served during the noon hour followed by a time of fellowship and gospel singing.

Beginning on Monday night, October 19, at 7:30 p.m. and continuing through Friday night, October 23, the Rev. Clarence Bowen of Ayden will be the evangelist for the fall revival. In addition to the gospel message, there will be special music each evening.

Harvest Day Observed At Westside Church

Harvest Day will be observed at Westside Church, Kinston, on Sunday, October 19, 1981. The day's activities will begin with a skit presented by the young people of the church in the Sunday school assembly at 9:45 a.m. The morning worship hour at 11 a.m. will feature special music with the pastor, the Rev. Wayne King, delivering the morning message. A special offering will be received to be applied toward the building fund. A picnic lunch will be served on the grounds at the noon hour, followed with a singspiration presented by local members from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. and an open house of the newly completed Sunday school wing of the church. The day's activities will climax with "The Taylor Family" of Kinston in concert at 7 p.m.

Revival services will begin at Westside Church, on Monday, October 19, and will continue through October 23, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of LaGrange Church, will be the guest evangelist. There will be a mini-sermon and the Toddlers will present special music at the beginning of each service; also there will be special music rendered by the choir and special guests. A nursery will be available at each service. The pastor of the church and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend these services.

Revival Services Scheduled At Piney Grove Church

Piney Grove Church, Route 1, Kenly, is having its fall revival, October 19 through October 23. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Lloyd Hargis will be the evangelist. The Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow is pastor of the church. There is special singing planned each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Services at Black Jack Church

Revival services will be at Black Jack Church near Greenville, October 19-23, at 7:30 p.m., with the Rev. Arnold Price, pastor of Pleasant Grove Church, as the evangelist. A nursery will be provided; also special singing will be featured in each service. The pastor is the Rev. Cedric Pierce Jr. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pee Dee Youth Meet

The Pee Dee Youth Association had their meeting at Oak Grove Church, Route 2, Bladenboro, on Monday, September 21, at 8 p.m. The Rev. Joseph Ingram was guest speaker.

There was also a short business meeting in which the field day at Williams Township High School was discussed. A banner was given. Cypress Creek Church came in first place and Beaverdam Church came in second, with Oak Grove taking third place.

It was decided that the next meeting will be at Cypress Creek Church on November 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Revival in Progress At Aspen Grove Church

Revival services are in progress through October 16 at Aspen Grove Church, Fountain, with the Rev. David Charles Hansley, from Wilson, as the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:45 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Upcoming Events at Marsh Swamp Church

On Sunday, October 18, Charles Barnard, missionary to the Philippines, will hold the evening services beginning at 7 p.m., at Marsh Swamp Church, near Sims.

Fall revival services will begin October 19 and will continue through October 22. The Rev. Joseph Ingram will be the evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 25, at 11 a.m. The Rev. Ray Wells,

pastor of the church, will be the speaker. A picnic lunch will be spread after the worship service. The public is invited to attend these services.

Homecoming at Edgewood Church

Edgewood Church, near Crisp, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 18, 1981. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to worship and fellowship with the Edgewood people during this service. Lunch will be served after the morning worship. There will be a singspiration in the afternoon featuring different groups.

Homecoming to Be Observed At Calvary Church

Calvary Church, Wilson, will hold its annual homecoming service on Sunday, October 18. The pastor, the Rev. John Boykin, will bring the morning message. Lunch will be served on the grounds after the morning service. There will be a singspiration in the afternoon. All members, former members, and friends are invited to come and enjoy the day of fellowship.

Folkstone Church Has Special Day

On Sunday, September 13, a special day was held at Folkstone Church honoring approximately 35 senior citizens. As they arrived, they were greeted by representatives of the YFA and the Women's Auxiliary who pinned badges on them. They were ushered to their seats at the front of the church. During the special music time of the service which was presented by Ed Rublein, the children distributed gifts to each of the honored guests. Other highlights of the service were the inspiring testimonies of many of the senior citizens, the special singing and the message by the Rev. Ronnie Parker.

Afterwards, a bountiful lunch was enjoyed in the fellowship hall. Several plates were prepared and delivered to shutins who could not attend.

For the evening service, the congregation was blessed by special singing by the Damascus Way Singers from Trinity Church in Clayton, North Carolina.

Everyone agreed the day was a success and decided to designate the second Sunday in September as "Senior Citizens' Day."

Revival to Be Held At Pilgrim's Home Church



The Rev. Robert May

Revival services will be held at Pilgrim's Home Church, Route 2, Dover, October 19 through October 23. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Robert May is the evangelist. The Rev. Eldon Brock is the pastor. There will be special singing each night.

Homecoming Observed At Sound Side Church

Sound Side Church, near Columbia, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 18. The services will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m. with Kathy Cahoon teaching the lesson. Worship services will begin at 11 a.m. and will include much special singing, a reading, and the homecoming message by the pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend and enjoy a day of fellowship at Sound Side.

Homecoming and Revival At Moseley's Creek Church

Moseley's Creek Church, Route 1, Dover, will have homecoming on October 18.

Revival services will begin on October 19 and will continue through October 23, at 7:30 p.m., with the Rev. Phillip Wood of Smithfield as the evangelist. The Rev. Robert Fussell is the pastor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Homecoming and Revival to Be At First Church, Rocky Mount

First Church of Rocky Mount will have a homecoming day service on Sunday, October 18. Special singing will be presented in the afternoon service. Dinner will be served on the grounds following the 11 a.m. worship service. All friends, former pastors, and other interested persons are invited to come and join in the events of the day.

On Monday, October 19, at 7:30 p.m. and continuing through Friday, October 23, the Rev. Davie Brinson of Hopewell Church near Smithfield will be the evangelist at First Church of Rocky Mount. The choir will participate in each service. A time of spiritual renewal is at hand. Everyone is invited to attend. The pastor of First Church of Rocky Mount is Mark S. Hobbs.

Upcoming Events for Rock Springs Church

Rock Springs Church, near Bailey, will have its fall revival October 19 through October 23, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Noah Brown, pastor of Saints Delight Church in New Bern. There will be special singing

(Continued on Page 9)

News from the

Children's Home

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
AUGUST 1981
$12,214.64

ALBEMARLE	
Corinth	$ 195.00
Free Union	30.00
Gum Neck	25.00
Hickory Chapel	150.00
Mount Tabor	103.69
Mount Zion	20.00
Sound Side	33.00
Union Meeting	21.21
Total	$ 577.90
CAPE FEAR	
Christian Chapel	$ 25.00
Goldsboro, First	4.95
Johnston Union	55.87
Palmer Memorial	20.00
Pleasant Grove	90.00
Powhatan	23.60
Saint Paul	25.00
Shady Grove	60.00
Smithfield, First	20.00
Victory Mission	25.29
Total	$ 349.71
CENTRAL	
Aspen Grove	$ 217.00
Ayden	200.00
Black Jack	25.00
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	95.00
Free Union	25.40
Friendship	100.83
Greenville, First	385.00
Harrell's Chapel	75.00
Hickory Grove	4.00
Hugo	4.00
Hull Road	187.50
King's Cross Roads	55.00
LaGrange	25.00
Little Creek	100.00
Peace	115.00
Piney Grove (Pitt)	166.75
Pleasant Hill	255.00
Roanoke Rapids, First	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	25.00
Williamston, First	199.63
Auxiliary Convention	38.49
Total	$2,323.60
EASTERN	
Antioch	$ 50.00
Arapahoe	644.05
Bethel	25.00
Bethlehem	25.00
Bridgeton	20.00
Christian Chapel	2.25
Core Creek	115.60
Deep Run	374.00
Dublin Grove	16.66
Folkstone	20.00
Friendship	4.50
Gray Branch	20.00
Grants Chapel	25.00
Holly Springs	20.00
Jackson Heights	3.00
Juniper Chapel	50.00
Kinston, First	235.00
New Haven	3.00
Northeast	56.95
Oak Grove	167.65
Piney Grove	20.00
Rock of Zion	54.00
Russell's Creek	5.00
St. Mary's	126.00
Sandy Plain	100.00
Sarecta	30.00
Smith's New Home	170.00
Smyrna	300.00
Sneads Ferry	100.00
Sound View	25.00
Wardens Grove	267.17
Westside	30.00
Whaley's Chapel	165.00
White Oak	30.00
White Oak Grove	23.00
Wintergreen	4.50
Auxiliary Convention	150.00
Carteret County Sunday School Convention	50.00
W. R. Jarvis	10.00
Total	$3,537.33
PEE DEE	
Beaverdam	$1,000.00
Macedonia	50.00
Mount Calvary	248.00
Total	$1,298.00
PIEDMONT	
East Rockingham	$ 20.00
Faith	10.00
Hopewell	40.00
Mount Calvary	100.00
Total	$ 170.00
WESTERN	
Agape Mission	$ 50.00
Branch Chapel	675.00
Durham, First	100.00
Everett Chapel	71.20
Fremont	123.75
Free Union	184.66
Friendship	480.00
Kenly	60.00
Little Rock	28.00
Living Waters	100.00
Marsh Swamp	138.00
Micro	160.00
Milbournie	125.00
Mount Zion	20.36
People's Chapel	140.00
Pine Level	5.00
Pleasant Grove	5.00
Pleasant Plain	145.00
Rains Cross Roads	20.00
Rosebud	5.00
Sherron Acres	175.00
Spring Hill	250.00
St. Mary's	556.53
Stancill's Chapel	156.50
Stoney Creek	50.00
Union Chapel	32.50
Union Grove	62.50
Wilson, First	15.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Total	$3,959.00

MEMORIALS

By Bethlehem in memory of Mrs. Eva Worthington

By Guy, Hazel and Ted Williams in memory of Mrs. Eva Worthington

By Hickory Grove in memory of Walter and Catherine Briley

By Paul and Linda Gaskins in memory of Mrs. Edith L. Parker

By Victory Mission in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie H. Ange

By Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Faulkner in memory of William Allen Faulkner

By Parthenia Goulding in memory of Walter Rhodes

News from the

Retirement Homes

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
AUGUST 1981
$884.82

ALBEMARLE	
Saint Paul	$ 25.00
Total	$ 25.00
CAPE FEAR	
Goldsboro, First	$ 3.30
Powhatan	2.40
Victory Mission	25.29
Total	$ 30.99
CENTRAL	
Ayden	$100.00
Hull Road	100.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Total	$300.00
EASTERN	
Arapahoe	$ 2.00
Christian Chapel	1.50
Deep Run	15.00
Jackson Heights	2.00
New Haven	2.00
Northeast	2.50

Rock of Zion	26.00
Russell's Creek	5.00
Smith's New Home	20.00
St. Mary's	6.00
White Oak Grove	2.00
Wintergreen	3.00
Williamston, First	57.49
Total	$144.49
PIEDMONT	
Mount Calvary	$ 37.50
Sweet Haven	20.00
Total	$ 57.50
WESTERN	
Free Union	$ 23.60
Friendship	3.00
Fremont	2.50
Little Rock	2.00
Marsh Swamp	2.00
Micro	20.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Piney Grove	20.00
Pleasant Hill	15.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	20.00
Stancill's Chapel	2.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Total	$260.10
Christian Service	$ 66.74
Total	$ 66.74

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

each night and everyone is invited to come. The pastor is the Rev. Jack Lassiter.

Homecoming will be observed on October 18. There will be a special service at 11 a.m., with lunch to follow in the church fellowship hall. There will be an old-fashioned gospel sing in the afternoon with visiting church choirs. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services in Progress At Friendship Church

Revival services are in progress and will continue through Saturday, October 17, at Friendship Church, Route 1, Farmville. The Rev. James B. Hardee, pastor of Oak Grove Church, Bladenboro, is the guest evangelist. Special music is being featured nightly and services begin at 7:30 each evening.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of Friendship Church, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to join them for the remainder of these services.

Revival and Homecoming Scheduled at Marlboro Church



The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

Marlboro Church, Route 1, Farmville, will have a series of revival services October 18-21. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark, the assistant pastor of Sherron Acres Church, Durham, will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be featured nightly and a nursery will be provided each evening. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The members of Marlboro Church will celebrate their annual homecoming on Sunday, October 25. Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a.m. and it will be followed by the morning worship service. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor, will deliver the morning message. Lunch will be spread afterwards. A memorial service and singspiration will be held during the afternoon.

The pastor and the congregation invite everyone to join them for these services.

Teenage Sunday at Sound Side Church

The adults in Sound Side Church, Columbia, took a back seat on Sunday, September 27, when the youth took over the Sunday school in a Teenage Day, which was planned and organized by the YFA under the very able leadership of its president, Lynn O'Neal, and directors Kathy and James Cahoon. The teenagers filled all the offices of Sunday school, taught all the classes, and filled the adult choir. Even the Sound Side quartet, The Deacons Four, was replaced by "The Deacons Four, Number 2," composed of Lynn O'Neal, Vickie Cooper, Diana Roughton, and Monica Brickhouse, who beautifully sang "God Bless America Again."

Bradley Brickhouse replaced his father as superintendent; while Tony Sawyer served as secretary with Linda Brickhouse at the piano during the Sunday school hour. The classes were taught by Lynn O'Neal, Althea Brickhouse, Al Ambrose, Anita Cahoon, Vickie Cooper, Diana Roughton, Monica Brickhouse, and Pam Roughton. Ushers for the day were Paul Brickhouse and Thomas Brickhouse.

Sound Side feels very fortunate to have such capable teenagers, and everyone enjoyed the day's activities.

September CDYF Meeting Held

The Central District Youth Fellowship held its September meeting at First Church, Greenville. There were over 110 people present. The YFA, AFC, and Cherub banners, all given according to the percentage of members present, were won by Grimsley Church. Marlboro Church had the most people present and received the attendance award.

The program was given by "The Sugar Frosted Saints" from Black Jack. It was patriotic and very enjoyable.

Afterwards, delicious refreshments were served.

Everyone had a great time getting together and praising the Lord.

October is Superannuation Month

INFORMATION ON SUPERANNUATION FUNDS

The Superannuation Board receives contributions from our churches in support of this phase of our State Convention program in the same manner as do all the other Boards and Institutions of the Convention. The contributions received are either for general funds or earmarked funds for some special aspect of the Superannuation Program. It should be recognized by all of our churches that if we want a State Convention Superannuation Program it must be supported in every way possible. This part of our State Convention program seeks to fulfill the Biblical admonition to provide for those who minister to our churches (Deuteronomy 14:27-29; 1 Corinthians 9:14).

I. CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR GENERAL FUND

Contributions received from churches, organizations or individuals are used in the following manner:

1. Operating expenses are paid out of general funds. The Superannuation Board has the same general expense as the other Boards and Institutions of the Convention. Remuneration for services rendered, supplies, printing, postage, Board expenses, and other miscellaneous expenses are paid out of general funds.

2. Pension checks are paid out of general funds. There are two ministers and four widows on this list. The ministers receive a monthly check and the widows receive a quarterly check. There are twenty-two ministers who are retired under the MINISTERIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

3. Matching funds for those ministers participating in the MINISTERIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM are paid out of general funds. The Board matches up to sixty dollars, but this should be more and it could be if contributions were larger.

4. Two-thirds of the life insurance premiums are paid out of general funds for those ministers who participate in this phase of our program. Over $150,000 worth of life insurance is in force on those participating in this part of the Superannuation program.

5. The expenses for administering the MINISTER'S WIDOW'S FUND are paid out of the general funds. To date we have paid to widows of participating ministers over $41,000.

6. The subscription price of the *The Free Will Baptist* paper is paid out of the general funds for those on the pension list and those retired under the MINISTERIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

II. CONTRIBUTIONS EARMARKED FOR SPECIAL ASPECTS OF THE SUPERANNUATION PROGRAM

Contributions received from churches, organizations or individuals for a specific purpose and/or an individual are used in the following manner:

1. Contributions that are sent for an individual who is on our pension list go into the fund from which they are sent checks monthly or quarterly.

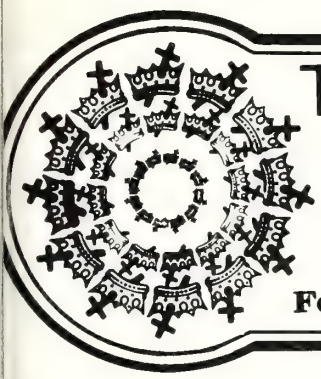
2. Contributions that are sent to be applied to an individual's MINISTERIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM fund go into the individual's retirement account.

3. Contributions that are sent to be applied to an individual's insurance premiums are used to pay those insurance premiums when due.

4. Contributions that are sent to be applied to an individual's MINISTER'S WIDOW'S FUND go into the MINISTER'S WIDOW'S FUND and are sent to the participating minister's wife upon the minister's death as set forth in our information brochure.

5. Contributions that are sent as an endowment gift are used as specified in the endowment agreement.





THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For October 25

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

Lesson Text: John 3:5-21
Memory Verse: John 3:16

I. INTRODUCTION

Jesus was about thirty years old (Luke 3:23) when He came out of the Galilean hills to the Jordan River and asked John to baptize Him (Matthew 3:13-17). Then immediately He went out into the desolate desert for forty days alone with His thoughts.

Alone? No, the devil was there. But the Spirit of God also was there, and the devil was overcome. Jesus made up His mind. Afterward He would create food for five thousand people (Matthew 14:13-21), but never just to feed Himself (Matthew 4:2-4). He would attract people by miracles (John 3:2), but He would not do miracles that had no usefulness except to attract (Matthew 4:5-7). He would give His life to save the world (John 1:29), but not for the world would He compromise with the devil (Matthew 4:8-10).

With His mind made up, Jesus went back to the Jordan and began to gather disciples about Him: Andrew and Simon, Philip and Nathanael (John 1:35-51). There was also an unnamed man (John 1:35). Probably this was John, the writer of this record; and probably his brother James also joined the group of Jesus' disciples.

Back to the hills of Galilee went Jesus with these disciples, and there He amazed them with His first miracle (John 2:1-11). Apparently, He then moved His family's home from Nazareth to Capernaum (John 2:12). Winter gave way to spring, and it was time to go to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover.

All Israel thronged Jerusalem at Passover time, and there Jesus caught the attention of the nation by driving a gang of crooked merchants out of the temple court (John 2:13-17). He then held attention by the miracles He did (John 2:23). These are not described. Probably they were miracles of healing such as those Jesus did later (Matthew 4:23, 24).

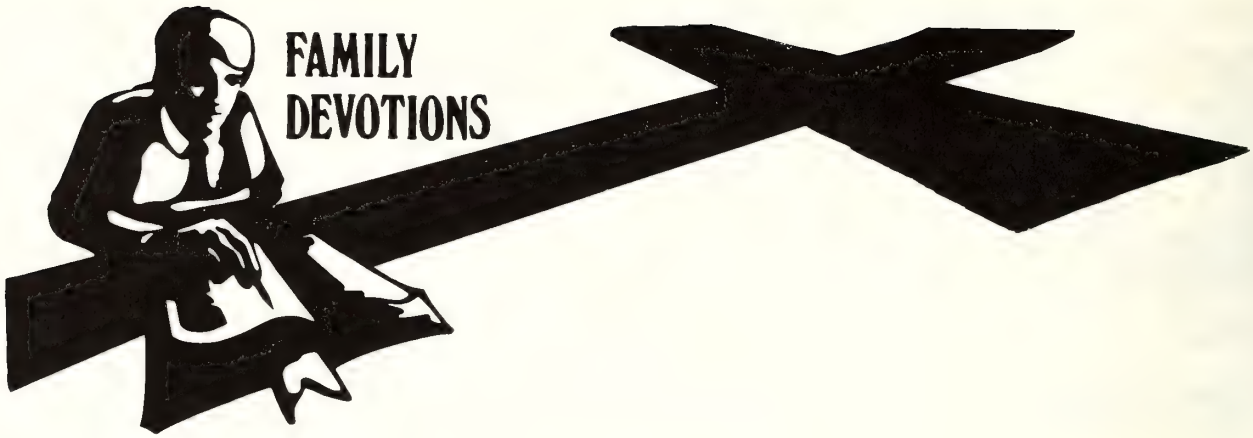
The chief priests in charge of the temple must have been annoyed when this stranger took it on Himself to banish the market they had allowed and probably profited from. These priests were of the sect called Sadducees (Acts 5:17). Possibly the Pharisees were less hostile toward Jesus in the beginning. However, Jesus probably was teaching as well as doing miracles. The Pharisees were especially concerned with teaching, and it disturbed them to see an unauthorized teacher getting so much attention. Furthermore, Jesus probably was saying, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." That was what He said later in Galilee (Matthew 4:17); and it was the message of John the Baptist (Matthew 3:1, 2), who already had antagonized both Sadducees and Pharisees (Matthew 3:7-10). Very soon, then, both Sadducees and Pharisees were aligned against Jesus.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a ruler of the Jews. Like the rest of his party, he must have been surprised and disturbed to see an unknown teacher suddenly getting the attention of the multitudes. But Nicodemus was not one to condemn without investigation. Especially was he slow to condemn a teacher whose miracles showed that God was with him. So Nicodemus investigated. In the beginning of his investigation he was more puzzled than enlightened. Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." What could that mean? Nicodemus was a natural-born citizen of Israel. Wasn't that the kingdom of God? And how can a grown man be born again? That was the question Nicodemus asked (John 3:1-4). Jesus' answer begins our text.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. AN ADDITIONAL TRUTH

The first three Gospels are called the Synoptics because they look at basically the same events in the life of our Lord, but the Gospel of John is different. It is the only one of the four Gospels that is written for the avowed purpose of helping all men to believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God (John 20:31). Another great difference between John and the other Gospels is that the others make use of parables, but there is not one parable in this Gospel. The nearest thing to a parable is what is sometimes called the parable of the vine and the branches in John 15. But if you will note it closely you will find that is not constructed like the parables in the other Gospels. John contains seven miracles, five of which are not recorded in any of the Synoptic Gospels. This is the Gospel that most people ask the young convert to read first because it will help to confirm his belief in Jesus Christ as God's only begotten Son.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1:1-31

"GREAT IS OUR GOD"

In telling of the wonders of the universe, *Newsweek* said, "A galaxy is a fantastically large archipelago of millions upon millions of stars, along with enormous quantities of gasses and dust. There are tens of billions of galaxies adrift in the vast ocean of the universe, most of them grouped in clusters!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Our heavenly Father made them all: "He made the stars also" (Genesis 1:16); *"He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Great is our God, and of great power: His understanding is infinite"* (Psalm 147:4, 5).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 2:1-22

A BIG EAR

A young man said to William L. Self, "When I look at your generation all I see is one great big mouth—always talking!"

Self asked, "What would you like to see?"

The youth replied, "A big ear—always listening!"

If we fail to listen patiently, understandingly, and sympathetically to the youths, they may get the answers to their perplexing problems from the wrong source, and their lives may be shipwrecked and their characters besmirched.

PRAYER THOUGHT

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not . . . . Walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood (Proverbs 1:10, 15, 16).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 35:1-10

BEAUTY REMAINS

The French artist Renoir was so painwracked with rheumatism that every stroke of his brush brought perspiration to his anguished face. Being unable to stand, he sat in a chair.

Despite his suffering, Renoir painted enduring masterpieces of great beauty. One day a friend asked, "Why do you continue to torture yourself?"

Renoir replied, "The pain passes, but the beauty remains!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away (Revelation 21:4).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 17:1-9

MEN AND WOLVES

A fifteen-year-old boy fell from a bridge rail into the lair of some wolves in the San Diego Zoo. The wolves attacked him. He suffered a twelve-inch slash on the back of his skull and many puncture wounds from their fangs.

The boy's screams attracted two passers-by who vaulted a three-foot wall and jumped down a six-foot embankment into the wolf enclosure. "The wolves didn't attack us, but every time the boy got to his feet, they rushed him again," said the two men who beat off the wolves and rescued the boy.

It was the nature of the wolves to attack the boy, and it is the nature of unregenerated mankind to lie, kill, steal, and commit adultery. The Bible says that the unchanged heart of man is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible warningly says, "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another" (Galatians 5:15).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 2:1-4

HOW TO DO IT

In presenting an idea to others, put it before them:

Briefly, so they will read it;
Clearly, so they can grasp it;
Illustratively, so they will remember it;
Accurately, so they will be guided by its light.

PRAYER THOUGHT

For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in

power, and in the Holy Ghost (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Scripture Reading—Job 12:7-12

SHALLOW DIGGING

Many years ago, Charles H. Spurgeon appraised secular thinking thus: "In the dogmas of modern thought there is not enough mental meat to bait a mousetrap. As to food for the soul, there is none in it. An ant would starve on such small grain. No atonement, no regeneration, no eternal love, no covenant. What is there worth thinking about?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God (Psalm 53:1).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Scripture Reading—Mark 6:30-44

WHAT DID YOU DO ABOUT IT?

In Hong Kong, Dr. Vernon Richardson observed a little Chinese girl sitting with her face pressed against the glass window of a bakery. Exhausted and hungry, she had fallen asleep outside the window behind which were stacked large loaves of bread.

"What an excellent picture that touching scene will make!" exclaimed Dr. Richardson, and he quickly snapped it.

When he returned to his home in Baltimore, the bakery scene with the hungry little girl was shown in his church with his other pictures. His comment on the bakery scene was interrupted by one who said, "Tell us what you did about it."

"About what?" asked the pastor.

"The little hungry girl against the window."

After a heartsearching moment, Dr. Richardson replied, "I did nothing about it. How remiss I was! I could have entered the bakery and bought the little girl more bread than she had ever had to eat before."

Most of us know how to do much better than we do. The extent of our accountability to God is commensurate with our knowledge of human need and the extent of our ability to relieve the need.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

By motion, the Ordination Credentials of the Rev. Charles Sugg are hereby declared null and void as of September 24, 1981. Please be advised that he is no longer a member in good standing with the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. This action was taken in a joint meeting of the Ordaining Council and Ministerial Character Committee of the Western Conference.

Ray Wells, *Secretary*

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 15—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

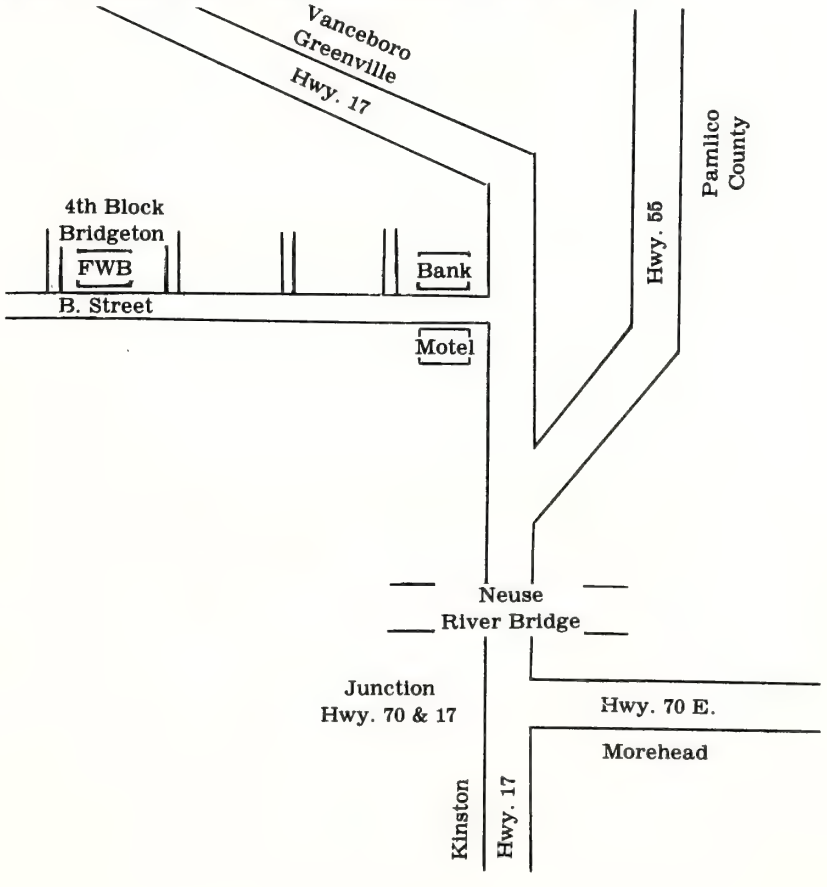
October 15—Western Conference, Elwood Lane Church, Kannapolis

October 17—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Oak Grove Church near Bladenboro

October 21, 22—Eastern Conference

EASTERN CONFERENCE TO MEET

The Eastern Conference meets October 21 and 22 at Bridgeton Church, Bridgeton. We hope to see many of you there. Below is printed a map showing the location of the church.



Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FREE WILL BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS ELECTED



The members of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship at Mount Olive College have elected officers for the 1981-82 academic year. They are (from left to right, front to back): Timothy W. Bass of Belhaven, president; Melanie Kennedy of Pink Hill, publicity chairman; Becky Prescott of New Bern, song leader; Melody Kennedy of Pink Hill, assistant publicity chairman; Calvin Mercer, co-advisor; (back row) Tammy Ambrose of Washington, pianist; Chris Harrell of Morehead, treasurer; and Helen Griffin of Charlotte, vice president. Mrs. Dianne Riley (not pictured) is also an advisor to the group.

"The Free Will Baptist Fellowship is one of the many ways students can enhance their spiritual life at Mount Olive College," said Calvin Mercer in explaining the purpose of the organization.

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship is an organization open to all students on campus. It meets each Monday at 5:45 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel. The programs include guest speakers, discussions, and other activities designed to provide the opportunity for Christian growth.

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS TO VISIT HIGH SCHOOLS

High schools in Johnston, Wake, and Wayne counties will be holding "College Day" sessions during the week of October 19-23. Representatives from the admissions office of Mount Olive College will be meeting with students from these areas for the purpose of sharing the unique program of Christian education available at Mount Olive College.

Mrs. Dianne Riley, associate director of admissions, will meet with juniors and seniors from Johnston County at Smithfield-Selma Senior High School on Monday, October 19.

Mrs. Nancy Cassill, admissions counselor, will be at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics on October 19.

Mrs. Nancy Sampsell, director of admissions, and Mrs. Cassill will both meet with students from Wake County public schools and Raleigh area private schools on the dates of October 20-22.

Mrs. Sampsell will be in Goldsboro on Friday, October 23, at Goldsboro High School.

The "College Day" sessions are sponsored by the Carolina Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. Their primary purpose is to provide an opportunity for high school students to be exposed to many different types of post secondary education and to explore specific interests.



There are four people in the admissions office who are involved in the recruiting process: Mrs. Nancy Sampsell, director of admissions (front left); Mrs. Ruth Allen, admissions secretary (front, right); Mrs. Diane Riley, associate director of admissions (back, left); Mrs. Nancy Cassill, admissions counselor (back, right).

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Everett Chapel Church, on Sunday, October 18, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. During his visit

resident Raper will review lans for developing Mount live College into a four-year ollege. The pastor is the Rev. illy Yawn.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne Riley, associate irector of admissions, will be uest speaker at Juniper hapel Church, on Sunday, Oc- ber 18, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach the senior unday school class.

During her visit, Mrs. Riley ill review plans for develop- ng Mount Olive into a four- ear college. The pastor is the ev. Stanley Buck.

COLLEGE CHAPLAIN TO TEACH STUDY COURSE

The Rev. Frank R. Harrison ill teach a study course en- tled "The Person and Work of he Holy Spirit" from 7:30-9 .m., on Tuesday, November 3, nd Tuesday, November 10, at he First Church of Durham.

The course is offered under he division of continuing ducation of Mount Olive Col- ge. Mr. Harrison is college haplain.

There is no charge for the ourse and all area churches re invited to participate.

The Rev. Fred Johnson is astor of the First Church of urham.

HEAVEN BOUND TO SING AT MOC

Heaven Bound, a gospel uartet from Kinston, will be resenting a program of piritual music at 7:30 p.m., hursday, October 15, in odgers Chapel, Mount Olive ollege.

Large groups from Free Will aptist churches are welcome.

The program is sponsored by he religious life organizations f Mount Olive College. There no charge for the perfor- ance.

1981 DINNERS FOR MOC

Greene County, Saturday, October 17, 7 p.m., West Greene School, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal: $9,775

Nash County, Tuesday, October 20, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal: $3,875

Craven County, Monday, October 26, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle High School, Miss Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal: $9,250

Wayne County, Tuesday, October 27, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, Chairman. Goal: $17,650

Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick Counties, Thursday, October 29, 7 p.m., Folkstone Church, O. B. Taylor, Chairman. Goal: $1,525

Duplin County, Saturday, October 31, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School, Fitzgerald Bostic, Chairman. Goal: $9,900

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 2, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton, Leonard B. Woodall and Mike Scott, Co-Chairmen. Goal: $24,000

Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, and *Chowan Counties,* Thursday, November 5, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper, David Cahoon, Chairman. Goal: $5,475

Carteret County, Saturday, November 7, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort, David Ward, Chairman. Goal: $7,775

Pitt County, Monday, November 9, 7 p.m., D. H. Conley High School near Greenville, Leon Harris, Chairman. Goal: $14,625

Wilson County, Tuesday, November 10, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School, James B. Hunt, Chairman. Goal: $15,450

Beaufort County, Saturday, November 14, 7 p.m., Chocowinity High School, Steve Hargrove, Chairman. Goal: $7,250

Sampson, Harnett, and *Cumberland Counties,* Thursday, November 19, 7 p.m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: $7,125

Pamlico County, Saturday, November 21, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, Chairman. Goal: $5,750

NOTICES

There will be a Home Missions Board meeting, on Friday, October 16, 1981, at 7:30 p.m., at Don's Seafood Restaurant, Fayetteville. The restaurant is located at the corner of I-95 and Grove Street. Please note this, all State Free Will Baptist Home Mission Board members.

Taylor Hill

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet on Monday, October 19, 1981, at 9:30 a.m., in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, 123 North Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina.

All persons having business with the board may meet with us then.

W. H. Willis, *Secretary*

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50, and $30 respectively (plus tax where it applies). These are the price changes as of October 1, 1981, for *The Free Will Baptist.*

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Spirit of God can unify us, and the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists—and others—is dependent on it! (Of course, "to sum it all up, we have to divide and watch our love multiply; we have to add a little faith and subtract all our doubt.")

When is one greater than ten? When we become as one people, and it is time that we did.

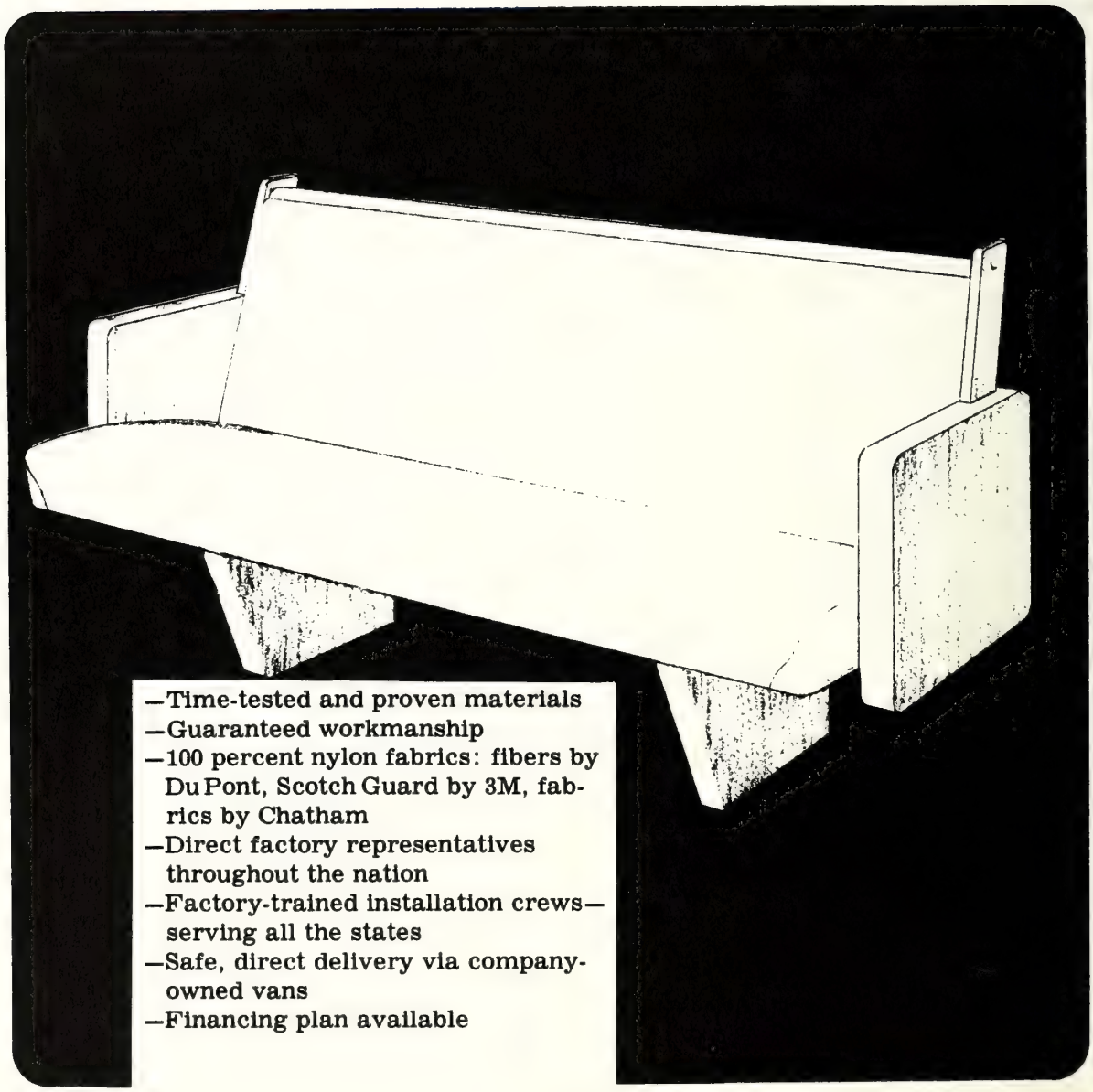
(So ends today's math lesson.)

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CHURCH FURNITURE

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Winterville Church Moves Forward

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Hide and Seek Enemy

Dead! No one could believe it. So senseless was this waste of human life. All this tragedy was because of a blunder. Surely war is a grim reality, but why had it chosen to wrap its tentacles around another human life?

The troop had settled for the evening about ten miles south of the demilitarized zone. The South Vietnamese allies with whom the Marines patrolled were not too qualified. The platoon leader had positioned the American soldiers on one side of the perimeter; the South Vietnamese stood watch on the other. The men dug holes for shelter and set up their defenses. Soon all was quiet; everyone was asleep except those who were on watch.

Suddenly, the sound of automatic rifle fire ripped the stillness. The men scrambled to their fox holes. They grabbed their weapons and gazed into the darkness, waiting, listening for anything that would appear to be the enemy. But there was nothing—the soldiers waited for what seemed to be the longest time ever only to realize that all was quiet again.

The commotion that awoke the men had come solely from inside the command post—none from the outside. The noise had come from the other side of the perimeter, the South Vietnamese side. At whom had the allies directed their fire? **Who** was out there?

Voices broke through the silence. South Vietnamese voices from the darkness communicated urgency that would be understandable in any language. An exchange of conversation between the command post and the darkness, and the tragedy began to unfold.

The post became an emotional setting as the men's worst hunch was verified. The allies' fire had been directed at a group of seven American soldiers who were returning to the safety and security of **their** friendly command post. The signal had not been communicated to one of the men who stood watch on the perimeter; he had mistakenly identified the "intruders" as enemy and opened fire on them.

A tragedy? Certainly; but war is tragic. Sometimes, though, it is inevitable. In fact, there is a battle raging this very minute. The location: Egypt? Israel? The Sudan? Afghanistan? No. This war is one being fought in a different realm, for the armies are composed of God's people and we are fighting against the spiritual forces of evil.

In light of this battle, let's consider an even greater tragedy than the one mentioned earlier: God's children, as we are engaged in battle, often commit the same blunder of mistaking our own people as the enemy. The setting usually involves relationships—feelings are hurt, resentment sets in. Hard feelings gradually make their way down the path of destruction. Evil pokes its ugly head out whenever an opportunity avails itself and quickly looks to see who would like to be filled in on the latest concerning the person who is hurt.

The war goes on and "our" arsenal is usually well stocked: anger, bitterness, gossip, withdrawal, covetousness,

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The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Scott Sowers

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October 21, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice-President; Robert May, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Dewey C. Boling, and Willis Wilson.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

WINTERVILLE CHURCH BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW FACILITY

by Mrs. Gladys Corbett

SUNDAY, October 11, 1981, was a milestone for the congregation of Winterville Church. After nine years of planning, praying, and fund raising, we actually had the ground-breaking ceremony for our new church on East Cooper Street in Winterville, North Carolina. The Lord blessed us with a beautiful day—the outdoor afternoon services consisted of homecoming dinner, the ground-breaking ceremony, and gospel singing, all on the site of our future church. The day's services were further enhanced by the fact that the dimensions of the church were staked off and drawn on the lot.

We have felt God's hand upon this work for some time now. The service was planned, completely trusting God that the bids would be within reach of our budget, and that the church body would accept them.

What a thrill it was to eat lunch in the proposed "fellowship area" under tents loaned to us by all the local funeral homes! After an impressive ceremony, the Rev. Edward Taylor, pastor, turned the first shovel of dirt; the second shovel was turned by the Improvement Committee—Louise Hines, Jewel Lawrence, William Nobles, Claudie McLawhorn, and Bill Churchill. The third shovel was turned by the Board of Trustees and the final shovel by the Board of Deacons.

All the ministers who have pastored Winterville Church since the inception of this building program were recognized: the Revs. James Lupton, Jack Mayo, Bobby Futrell, Walter Pollard (interim pastor), and the present pastor, Edward Taylor.

For the singspiration, the stage and chairs were set up where the actual sanctuary will be when construction begins. Wayne Vincent directed the program, which featured the Gospel Chargers, Jack Weathersby, the Hines Cousins, Sonlite, the Crusaders, Linda Hines, Alice Hines, Gayl Evans, Guyla Evans, Debbie Gray, Erwin Hines and Angela Moore, and the Booster Band.

The Spirit of the Lord was deeply felt, and we rejoice and praise His name for all His blessings!

During the service, we experienced a unique phenomenon. Used for the offering, a shadow box, whose glass front reflected the architect's rendering of the proposed building, caught the beams of the afternoon sun; the light caused the steeple of the church (in the reflection) to glow brilliantly. We believe that this was God's way of reaffirming His message that surely His presence was with us, and furthermore, ". . . My presence shall go with thee . . ." (Exodus 33:14).



Bill Churchill, Jewel Lawrence, William Nobles, and Louise Hines watch as Claudie McLawhorn turns a shovel of dirt.

A TRIBUTE TO ELDER WILLIAM HENRY LAUGHINGHOUSE

by Leon Earl Harris

William Henry (Bill) Laughinghouse was born September 15, 1853, to Caswell and Lovey Laughinghouse. He was born, raised and lived his entire life in the Greenville area of Pitt County. Little is known of his childhood or teenage years but early in his manhood he accepted Christ as his Saviour and joined the church. On December 26, 1878, he married Miss Pamela Ann Smith, and this proved to be an enriching union for him.

Elder Laughinghouse attended only thirteen days of school, so his wife Pamela taught him to read and write. He was drawn to the Word of God, and as he learned to read, the Bible took command of whatever time he had to give. One of his daughters still remembers that even when he would sit down in the field to rest, he would take out his Bible and read from it. Sometime after his marriage, he received a calling from God to serve Him as a minister of the gospel. Harrison and Barfield's history records for us that in November of 1885, Elder Bill Laughinghouse was enrolled as a minister in the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

The churches that he pastored were many and included Blackjack (Black Jack), Parker's Chapel, Marlboro, Hickory Grove, Pleasant Hill, Merel Swamp, Masodonia (Macedonia), and Rose Hill. The Rev. Bill Laughinghouse and his wife Pamela also helped to organize the First Church in Greenville in 1902. A year later tragedy was to strike in the life of Elder Bill Laughinghouse, when his wife Pamela died. In twenty-five years of marriage, they were blessed with eleven children of whom three still survive. These are Mrs. Malissa Rouse of Winterville, Mrs. Daisy Carroll of Greenville, and Mrs. Wesley Turnage of Farmville.

Mr. Laughinghouse continued in his work, and the Lord provided for him another companion and helper. On June 12, 1904, he married Miss Annie Tripp. To this union were born six children, of whom three still survive. These are Mrs. Lela Williams of Greenville, Jesse Laughinghouse of Greenville, and Furney Laughinghouse of Pantego.

The Rev. Bill Laughinghouse gave to the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina and to the Lord fifty years of loyal service. All the tributes that have been written speak of him as a highly respected man because he made a firm stand on the Word of God; and he both preached it and lived it to the best of his ability. His daughters say that he would let nothing come between him and his God.

He spent the last twenty-three years of his life pastoring Rose Hill Church, the same church in which he was a

(Continued on Page 11)

Scenes from Ground Breaking Service





Karl Wesley McLawhorn, Bruce Gray, and Guy Corbett, Trustees, took part in the service. Hundreds were on hand for the occasion.

AVENUES OF SERVICE: THE SUPERANNUATION PROGRAM

by Walter Reynolds

I. INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has a Board of Superannuation charged with the responsibility of organizing and unifying all superannuation work throughout the State Convention. This includes the responsibility of providing a program for the aged, retired, and infirm ministers as well as for active ministers.

Through the years the Board of Superannuation has put together a program that we believe is now adequate to meet the needs of our ministers for their future security and retirement. While the minister is responsible for his participation in the program we recommend that the church assist him in this. The church could work out a simple plan based on a percentage of the pastor's salary, or could set a specified amount to be paid by the church for the pastor's benefits.

II. THE SUPERANNUATION PROGRAM

A. Ministerial Retirement System

This is a program that was first initiated by the board during the 1940s and then revised in 1961. Since that time over one hundred ministers have participated in the program and our retirement fund has grown to almost $300,000.

Who can participate? Ministers, Christian workers, and others employed by denominational agencies working with and for the Original Free Will Baptist denomination within North Carolina can participate.

Who contributes to the program? The participating minister or Christian worker pays his own contribution, choosing an amount, with the minimum ($30) or the maximum ($1,500) per year.

Does the church have to match what the minister pays? No. However, churches are urged to make it possible for their ministers to participate in this retirement program and also to give regular offerings as in the past.

What are the retirement benefits? The age of retirement is from 60-70 and the amount of retirement is determined by the number of years one has participated in the system, along with the amount paid into the system each year. (Example: the Rev. John Doe participates in the program for 18 years before he reaches the age of retirement. He was able with the help of the churches he pastored to contribute $750 each year and now he will receive $328 per month retirement. If he had been able to contribute $1,200 each year his retirement would have been $510 per month.

What are the death benefits? If one participating in the system dies before reaching the age of retirement, a lump sum, amounting to one and one half times that paid into the system by the deceased, shall be paid to the named beneficiary. (Example: Let's assume that the Rev. John Doe referred to above died at age 60, which would have reduced his participation in the program to 13 years. The death benefits for his beneficiary would be $15,795 on the $750 annual contribution or it would have been $24,570 if he had been able to contribute the $1,200 annually.)

Note: The State Convention through the Superannuation Board will match the amount paid into the MRS up to a maximum of $60. In the examples above this has been included.

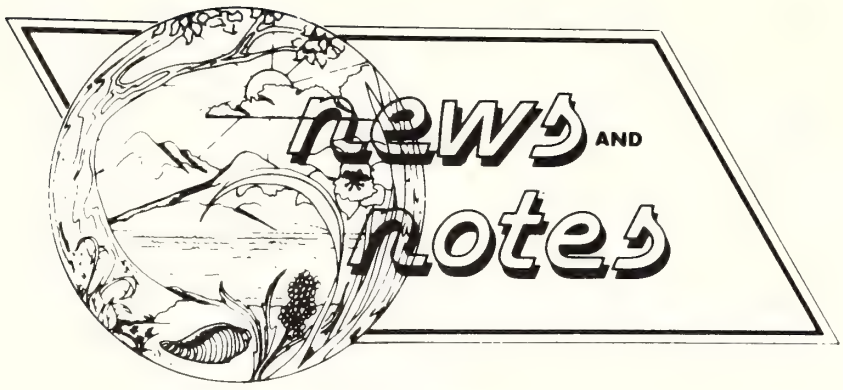
B. Mutual Benevolent Fund

(Note: this part of our program is for Free Will Baptist ministers, workers, members and members' families.)

The Superannuation Board initiated the MBF program which began on April 1, 1981. It is a self-funded health and hospital income plan for all Free Will Baptist people. The Board established the new program following several months of investigation and study which revealed that health and hospitalization coverage has increased for many over 100 percent in the past few years.

Under the MBF program, participating Free Will Baptist people will contribute a

(Continued on Page 15)



Revival Services at Free Union Church

The youth of Free Union Church, Route 1, Pinetown, announce revival services, October 26 through October 30. The visiting evangelist will be the Rev. Dale Albertson of Free Spirit Church, Wilson. Special music will be provided each evening by the local church and visiting groups. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and participate in the services. The pastor is the Rev. David Thick.

Upcoming Events at Free Union Church, Walstonburg



The Rev. C. L. Patrick

Free Union Church near Walstonburg announces revival services beginning Sunday, October 25, through Friday, October 30. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening with special music planned through the week. The Rev. C. L. Patrick, who pastored Free Union for thirty years, will be the guest evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend.

Free Union Church will observe its annual homecoming day on Sunday, November 1, 1981. All members, former pastors, and friends are invited to attend. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building after the morning services. Calvin Heath is pastor of the church.

Fall Revival at Sweet Gum Grove Church

Sweet Gum Grove Church near Stokes will have its fall revival November 2 through November 7, at 7:30 p.m. The guest minister will be the Rev. Floyd Cherry of Pine Level. Special music will be featured each night. A nursery will be provided, as will a story hour for children ages 2 through 3. There will also be a children's church for ages 4 through 9.

The Rev. David Hill, pastor, and the congregation invite everyone to share in the blessings of God.

News from Corinth Church

Corinth Church near Jamesville is having its fall revival through October 23, with the Rev. Jack Mayo as the evangelist. The pastor, James Owens, will have the service on October 24. The time of the meetings is 7:30 p.m. Special music is being rendered each night.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 25. The message will be brought at 11 a.m. with dinner following the service. The pastor and members invite all former pastors, members, and friends to attend these services and receive a blessing.

Friendship Church To Have Homecoming

Friendship Church, Route 1, Middlesex, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 25. The day's services will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. A memorial service will be given for the deceased members during the worship services. A picnic lunch will follow at the noon hour in the fellowship hall.

The pastor, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, and members invite all former members, pastors, and friends to come and worship during these services.

Revival Services to Be At Holly Springs Church

Revival services will be held at Holly Springs Church near Kenly November 8-12. The prayer room will open at 7:15 p.m., followed by the church service at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Floyd Cherry, president of Carolina Bible Institute, will be the evangelist for the week.

Special singing will be featured each evening. The pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, will assist in the revival and extends an invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Upcoming Events at Crab Point Church

Revival services will begin Monday, October 26, and will continue through October 30 at Crab Point Church, near Morehead City. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Bobby Brown will be the guest evangelist.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, November 1. The pastor, the Rev. Roland Cherry, will bring the homecoming message. The

pastor and the church congregation welcome all former pastors, members, and friends to attend these services.

Revival Services at Winterville Church

Revival services will be held at Winterville Church, Winterville, October 26-30 beginning at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. C. F. Bowen of Ayden will be the evangelist. Special music is planned for each service. The Rev. Ed Taylor and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone.

Revival Services at Palmer Memorial Church

Revival services will be held at Palmer Memorial Church, Garner, October 26 through October 30. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing featured during each service. The Rev. Danny Braswell is the evangelist. The Rev. Dewey C. Boling is pastor of the church. The public is invited to attend and enjoy these services.

Pleasant Hill Church Honors Senior Citizens

On September 20, 1981, a service was held honoring the senior citizens of Pleasant Hill Church near Pikeville. The call to worship was a medley of old-time songs played on the organ by Mrs. Judy Talton. The invocation was given by the pastor, the Rev. Don Kivett, followed by the welcome and announcements. Poems were read by Mrs. Zora Bunn, Mrs. Hettie Jackson, Mrs. Perrine Bunn, and Mrs. Louvene Berry.

Mrs. Berry presented the senior citizens with gifts. There were three men and fifteen women. The oldest senior citizen in the church, Mrs. Hettie Sasser, is 93 years old. She was unable to attend the services that day. The oldest active member of the church is 80 years old. She is Mrs. Maude Rollins.

The senior citizens each expressed what the church had meant to them and told what Jesus had done in their lives.

The pastor also added his remarks to those of the senior citizens, explaining what their lives had meant to the church and community.

The services were followed by lunch in the fellowship building. There was a cake decorated especially for the senior citizens.

The flowers in the church for the day were placed in honor of these guests.

Revival in Progress At Sandy Plain Church

Revival services are in progress through October 24, at Sandy Plain Church near Pink Hill. The Rev. James B. Hardee is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Special singing is being rendered each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Ransom H. McAbee, and congregation cordially invite everyone to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival in Progress At First Church of Woodrow

Revival services are in progress through October 24, at First Church of Woodrow in New Bern. The Rev. Blaney Rouse is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Special music is being rendered each evening. A nursery is provided for the little ones. Everyone is invited to attend the remaining services.

Homecoming and Revival Services at Cabin Church

Homecoming will be observed at Cabin Church near Beulaville on Sunday, October 25. Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a.m. The morning message will be brought by the Rev. Freeman Edwards of Jacksonville. Lunch will be spread at 12:30 p.m.

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 26, and will continue through Friday, October 30. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. A. G. Smith of Kinston will be the guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

General Conference Youth Night

Youth night at the General Conference was quite exciting this year, as five teams took part in the Bible Bowl Quiz. Beaverdam Church won first place in the AFC competition; Winterville Church placed second. The YFA team from Gum Swamp Church won first place, while Beaverdam Church took second and Shady Grove placed third in the YFA competition. These young people did an excellent job.

For the 1982 Bible Bowl Quiz, AFCers are to study the first ten chapters of the Book of Acts; YFAers are to study the first fifteen chapters of Acts (KJV). One copy of the study guide and rules will be furnished to each church who requests them. Each Youth Chairman (local, district, and state) will compose her own questions from the study guide. (Concentration should be placed on the memory verses.)

For more information, contact Mrs. Edna Fowler by writing to her at Box 164, Cumberland, North Carolina 28331; or by phoning 425-7873.

Revival at Core Creek Church

Core Creek Church, Cove City, announces revival services beginning October 26 and continuing through October 30. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Harry Brown, pastor of Northern Church near Bahama, will be the guest speaker. The Rev. Bass Mitchell is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

CONFERENCE NEWS



Piedmont Conference Had August Session

The Thirty-eighth session of the Piedmont Conference was held August 28, 29, at Baptist Cathedral Church, Durham. The Friday night session was a time of testimonies, praise, and fellowship. The Rev. Bruce Goodwin delivered the evening message, "I Am More," taking 1 Corinthians 11:22, 23 as his text.

Reports from denominational enterprises and various state bodies were given on Saturday morning. The Rev. M. E. Cox, pastor of Baptist Cathedral Church, spoke during the morning session. His sermon was entitled "We See Not Our Sign."

The report of the Credentials Committee noted that 31 ministers, 26 delegates, and 26 visitors registered for the Conference.

The following serve on the Executive Committee of the Piedmont Conference: the Revs. M. E. Cox, moderator; George Greene, vice-moderator; John A. Furr, clerk; Carlee Stallard, treasurer; Hampton Wallace; Leonard Lindsey; and David Atkins.



Albemarle Conference Ratifies Proposed Treatise

The Albemarle Conference met for its Thirty-seventh Annual Session on October 7 at First Church, Plymouth. Nine ministers from the Conference attended and thirteen of the sixteen area churches were represented (as was Cape Colony Mission).

The Rev. Floyd Burkey, host pastor, delivered the Conference sermon; his message was entitled "Respectable Sins."

Upon proper motion the Albemarle Conference ratified the proposed *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*. The Albemarle Conference is the first body to do so; it is also the first Conference to meet after the State Convention.

The Rev. Robert May is Moderator of the Albemarle Conference.

Eastern Conference to Meet

The Eighty-fifth Annual Session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet at Bridgeton Church, Bridgeton, on October 21, 22, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

WEDNESDAY MORNING

9:00—Registration, Ministers, Delegates, Visitors
10:00—Scripture and Prayer, John Clark
10:10—Conference Called to Order, Conference Clerk
—Welcome to Bridgeton, Host Church
—Response, Adrian Grubbs
10:20—Moderator's Address, Carol B. Hansley
10:30—Roll Call of Ministers, Receive Church Letters
—Partial Report of Credentials Committee

—Seating of the Delegates
—Recognize and Welcome Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:55—Report of Camp Vandemere, Inc.
—Receive Camp Vandemere Offering
11:05—Report from the Children's Home
11:15—Worship Service
—Introductory Sermon, Bass Mitchell
12:00—Lunch-Fellowship Time

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

1:30—Scripture and Prayer, James Sowers
1:40—Report of the Executive Committee
1:45—Report of the Examining Board
1:50—Report from the North Carolina Board of Superannuation
1:55—Report from the General Conference
2:00—Report from the North Carolina State Convention
2:05—Report from the North Carolina Ministerial Association
2:10—Report from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
2:15—Report of the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention
2:20—Report from the Church Finance Association
2:25—Miscellaneous Business
2:45—Recess

THURSDAY MORNING

9:30—Registration (for those not yet registered)
10:00—Scripture and Prayer, Hillary Gaskins
10:10—Read and Approve Minutes of Previous Day
—Roll Call of Ministers Absent Wednesday
—Receive Church Letters Not Already Turned in
10:30—Report from Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
10:35—Report of the Eastern Conference Missions Board
10:45—Report from the North Carolina State Missions Board
10:50—Report from the North Carolina Church Extension Board
10:55—Report from Mount Olive College
11:05—Worship Service
—Conference Offering
—Conference Sermon, Walter Sutton
12:00—Lunch-Fellowship Time

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

1:30—Memorial Service, Memorial Committee
1:45—Final Report of the Credentials Committee
—Final Report of the Examining Board
2:00—Committee Reports
—Leagues
—Sunday Schools
—Temperance
—Digest
—Finance Committee
—Treasurer's Report
—Resolutions Committee
—Nominations
—Election
3:00—Miscellaneous Business
—Read and Approve the Minutes
—Installation of Officers and Committee Members
3:15—Adjournment, Closing Hymn, Benediction

Moderator, Carol B. Hansley
Assistant Moderator, A. Graham Lane
Clerk, Bruce Dudley
Treasurer, S. Woodrow McCoy
Member-at-Large, Reginald Styron

From Where I Sit . . .

At the time of this writing, the Western Conference and the Pee Dee Association have not met; but by the time you read this, they will have had their annual meetings and the Eastern Conference will be in session. The Cape Fear Conference will meet at Casey's Chapel Church near Goldsboro on October 29; the Central Conference will convene on November 4 at Hugo Church, near Grifton.

During the 1981 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the Executive Committee recommended the approval of the proposed treatise and that said revision be sent to the Conferences of the Convention for ratification. The recommendation passed.

In order for the proposed *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* to become the official statement of our beliefs and practices, two-thirds of the Conferences in the State Convention must ratify the document—that is 5 out of the 7 Conferences.

October is
Superannuation Month

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE



Each year Mount Olive College hosts the Ministers' Institute, a continuing education program for Free Will Baptist pastors. The 1981 theme was "Family Ministry and Biblical Preaching." The Institute is directed by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, chaplain of the College.

Ministers and their wives attending the 1981 conference included: (left to right)

First row: William Dale, Gary Bailey, Graham Lane, Dr. John Beraland, C. L. Patrick, Clara Patrick, Sherry Mohn, and Frank Harrison.

Second row: Bruce Barrow, C. H. Overman, Ray Williamson, David Hines, Craig Simmons, Jerry Campbell, Leon Grubbs, Ronnie Mohn, Bass Mitchell, and Mark Hobbs.

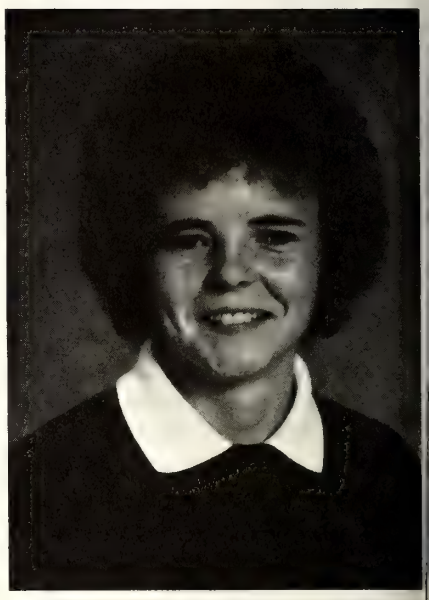
Third row: Luther Bissette, Bobby Taylor, and DeWayne Eakes.

Fourth row: Harry Grubbs, Bruce Steadman, Paul Grubbs, Marvin Waters, Eddie Edwards, Clifford Ball, Ray Wells, Adrian Grubbs, Sheryll Wood, Ed Gonzalez, and Michael Pelt.

Fifth row: John Owens, J. C. Yates, Phillip Boykin, Bryant Hines, Don Venable, Dean Kennedy, Walter Sutton, Charles Lacher, Phillip Wood, and Burkette Raper.

Ministers not present for the picture included: Donald Fader, Mickey Whitfield, Bob Fussell, Billy Toler, Bob Harber, Charles Crisp, Taylor Hill, Charles Parrish, Owen Arthur, Pat Arthur, C. Sheldon Howard, Chris Singleton, Joe Ingram, Luther Swinson, Ronnie Hobgood, Charles Sthrechley, Frank Grubbs, Eugene Sumner, Calvin R. Mercer Jr., Alton Howard, and Emmitt Jones.

GRADUATE MAKES SPECIAL GIFT



Cathy Moss

Cathy Moss, a 1981 graduate of Mount Olive College, has contributed $150 toward the building fund for College Hall—the physical education-athletic and convention facility which will help make the four-year program a reality at Mount Olive College. This gift represents Cathy's tithe for her work this past summer and expresses the love and loyalty she feels for MOC.

Cathy is continuing her education at Campbell University where she is studying for a career in Christian education. She is a member of Shiloh Church. Her parents are Cecil and Caroline Moss of Pinetown, North Carolina.

STERBIN SPEAKS AT CHAPEL SERVICE

Using 1 Corinthians 13 as his text, the Rev. Allen Sterbin of Piney Grove Church (Greenville) spoke to students and faculty in Rodgers Chapel on the topic of love.

"My message is quite simply," explained Sterbin, "that loving is giving."

In elaborating on his topic, the pastor listed the following



Chaplain Frank Harrison and the Rev. and Mrs. Allen Sterbin

characteristics of love which provide the basis for "a long and happy relationship, rich with God's blessings."

"Love suffers long."

"Love is not jealous."

"Love is not easily provoked."

"Love is truthful and open."

"Love is trusting."

"Love never fails."

NEW CREATIONS SELECTED AT MOC



This year's New Creations are: (from left to right, front to back) Chris Harrell f Morehead City, Vicki Cope of Kinston, Roy Lewis of Blount's Creek, Rhonda ones of Goldsboro, Oliver Godwin of Spivey's Corner, Terry Ruff of Burlington, laine Tyson of Fountain, Helen Griffin of Charlotte, Anita Lanier of Beulaville, aroline Castelloe of Mount Olive, and Lisa Dunn of New Bern.

"Members of the New Creations have been selected for the 1981-82 academic ear," stated Miss Caroline Castelloe, director of counseling at Mount Olive College.

Miss Castelloe, who serves as the group's director, explained that the New Creaons is "a Christian witnessing team which gives programs of gospel music and peronal testimonies."

Members of the group are chosen on the basis of experience, academics, and ommitment. A personal interview is also involved in the selection process.

This year try-outs will be held on November 21, High School Day at Mount Olive ollege. Interested high school students are urged to contact Miss Castelloe that ay.

The schedule for the New Creations for the fall semester of the 1981-82 academic ear is as follows:

ctober 29	7:00 p.m.	Onslow-New Hanover Dinner
ctober 30- ovember 1		Spiritual Life Retreat
ovember 1	1:30 p.m.	Spring Hill Church
ovember 5	7:30 p.m.	WMTPC Dinner
ovember 7	6:30 p.m.	Carteret County Dinner
ovember 8	7:00 p.m.	Free Union Church (Pinetown)
ovember 14	7:00 p.m.	Beaufort County Dinner
ovember 15	11:00 a.m.	New Haven Church
	7:30 p.m.	King's Cross Roads Church
ovember 21	6:00 p.m.	Pamlico County Dinner
ovember 22	11:00 a.m.	Friendship Church (Middlesex)
	7:00 p.m.	Robert's Grove Church

LAUGHINGHOUSE

(Continued from Page 4)

member when he was called into the ministry and the same church in which he was ordained.

He preached his last sermon at Reddy Branch (Reedy Branch) on Saturday, June 29, on Temperance; and on July 2, 1935, just three days later, he developed terrible chest pains at about 2:30 in the afternoon and died about two hours later. The cause of death was a condition known as angina pectoris.

We could try now to calculate his contribution to the work of the Lord in our denomination; but only eternity will be able to show us the lives that were touched by this man truly in the service and for the cause of Christ. His firm stand on the Word of God under adverse conditions should be an inspiration to us as Free Will Baptists, and to all of us that are ministers of the gospel.

His daughters that I had the opportunity to converse with as I prepared this sketch are justly proud of this father, as am I to learn of the rich inheritance left in 50 years of dedication to God by the Rev. William Henry (W. H. or Bill) Laughinghouse, my great-great-grandfather.

(Continued on Page 15)

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October—Time to order Sunday School Literature for December, January, February from the Free Will Baptist Press

October 21, 22—Eastern Conference, Bridgeton Church Bridgeton

October 29—Cape Fear Conference, Casey's Chapel Church near Goldsboro

October 31—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Scripture Reading—Romans 2:6-16

THE SHOULDERS OF OTHERS

A group of mountain climbers were asked why they persisted so doggedly in trying to reach an almost inaccessible summit. They replied, "Because of the creed of the mountaineer: 'Men climb mountains on the shoulders of others.' Someday some men, unhampered by having to explore and reject the impossible ways where we and others have tried and failed, will move more directly on the possible way which has emerged out of many failures and partial success and will stand on the top. When they do it, it will in some measure be our victory, too; for men climb mountains on the shoulders of others!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible says of God's redeemed ones, "Ye are . . . the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord" (Ephesians 2:19-21).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 29:11-15

RETRIEVING MISTAKES

Said F. W. Robertson in *Moody Monthly,* "Life is a series of mistakes, and he is not the best Christian who makes the fewest false steps. He is the best who wins the most splendid victories by the retrieval of mistakes."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13

WE CARE

Recently a minister entered a restaurant where each of the waitresses wore a saucer-like button with the words: WE CARE.

As the minister ate his dinner, he tried to get the attention of the waitress who kept zooming past him, but without success. Finally he blocked her way. She seemed displeased to render the requested service.

Then the minister thought, "The attitude of that waitress belies the words on the button: WE CARE."

How incongruous it is for us to say, "We care" and fail to enter feelingly into the sorrows and sufferings of others. No generation of Christians ever lived in a needier world. Great will be our accountability to God, if we say we care and show by our unresponsiveness that we are too selfishly occupied with ourselves to have genuine concern for others.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many are waiting a kind, loving word,
Help somebody today;
Thou hast a message O let it be heard,
Help somebody today.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

BRAVE AND COMPOSED HE DIED

The camp doctor who saw Bonhoeffer executed by the Nazis wrote:

"Through the half-open door in one of the huts, I saw Bonhoeffer kneeling on the floor praying fervently to his God. I was deeply moved by the way this lovable man prayed, so devout and so certain God would hear his prayer. At the place of execution he again said a short prayer and climbed the steps of the gallows, brave and composed!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his! (Numbers 23:10).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 28:15-19

BLIND BUT OBEDIENT

Richard Vonderhaar, a blind fifteen-year-old boy safely flew and landed a single-engine Cessna plane at Lunken Airport, Cincinnati, Ohio. How did

he do it? By his explicit obedience to the verbal directives of instructor-pilot General Dowers.

In commenting upon the successful feat, General Dowers said, "It was amazing the way that kid grasped instruction!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Long ago, wilful Saul lost his kingdom by disobedience to God and made shipwreck of his life. Remorsefully he lamented: "I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly" (1 Samuel 26:21). *Saul ended his life ignobly: He "took a sword, and fell upon it"* (31:4).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

Scripture Reading – Psalm 28

WAIT!

Florence Nightingale spoke thus of life: "Life is a hard fight, a struggle, a wrestling with the principle of evil, hand-to-hand, foot-to-foot. Every inch of the way must be disputed. The night is given us to take breath, to pray, to drink deeply at the fountain of power. The day is given to use the strength which has been given us, to go forth to work with it till evening."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How powerless we are to "run with patience the race that is set before us" unless we are endued with power from on high.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 40:29-31

NEVER REDUCED

In August, 1969, an electric generator conked out and reduced by one-fifth the capacity of Consolidated Edison to deliver power to its customers in New York City during the hottest month of the year. A plea was made to reduce electric consumption because there was little reserve.

Power from on high is never reduced for God's children. Each one of them may be "filled with all the fulness of God" (Ephesians 8:19) by presenting themselves in emptiness to God and in prayer.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Hover o'er me, Holy Spirit,
Bathe my trembling heart and brow;
Fill me with Thy hallowed presence,
Come, O come and fill me now."

Selected from Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations, Walter B. Knight.



CRISIS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

"Crisis in the Horn of Africa" is a powerful new documentary film about the tragic effect of prolonged drought and warfare on the lives of millions of East Africans. Available through the North Carolina State Convention Foreign Mission Board, this film will give viewers some dramatic insights into the kind of personal caring Jesus Christ expects from His followers.

- ☐ In dramatic eyewitness footage, viewers see the devastating results of what happens when villagers try to use bows, arrows and spears against the modern firepower of marauding cattle rustlers.
- ☐ Viewers will visit barren Las Dure refugee camp where 76,000 homeless and desperate people cling to survival by a thin thread.
- ☐ Viewers will meet two mothers. One, without enough food to feed both twins, must let one die. The other cannot muster the courage to tell her son his father will never return from the desert war.

But most important, viewers will see God's love in action, bringing life and hope into a world of despair—and they'll discover how **our** church can help.

For more information about this film, contact the Rev. Joe Ingram by writing to him at 3604 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530; or phone 734-5946.





JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS CHURCH

Lesson Text: John 17:1-6, 20-26
Memory Verse: John 17:20

I. INTRODUCTION

Near the end of His ministry, Jesus came to Jerusalem at Passover time. For the second time He purged the temple of the market that transformed the house of prayer into a den of thieves (Matthew 21:12, 13). At that the fury of the rulers doubtless rose to a new peak. Already they had determined to get rid of Jesus, but they dared not seize Him when He was surrounded by admiring throngs of people (Matthew 26:3-5). The rulers were delighted when Judas offered, for a price, to help the police find Him.

Such was the situation when Jesus and His disciples took the Passover Supper together, and Jesus gave the precious teachings recorded in Chapters 13 to 16 of John. During the feast Judas left to bring the police (John 13:21-30). Before He returned, the group left the place of their supper (John 14:31). Somewhere along the way, before they crossed the brook Kidron to Gethsemane (John 18:1), Jesus spoke the long prayer we find in John 17. **—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The chapter which we study today (John 17) contains the longest recorded prayer which our Lord offered during His public ministry on earth. It has been called "His High Priestly Prayer." It was offered in the presence of His apostles, after the institution of the Lord's Supper, and immediately following the discourse recorded in John 14 to 16.

B. The prayer that Jesus taught His disciples to use is often called the "Lord's Prayer," but this "High Priestly Prayer" should be given that name because the Lord offered it for His disciples, whereas the former is the one that Jesus taught His disciples.

C. This petition was offered after Jesus and the apostles had left the room where the Last Supper took place, and before they crossed the Kidron Valley to the Mount of Olives. Perhaps Jesus stopped under the shadow of the city wall to pray while His words of warning were still fresh in the disciples' ears.

D. In many instances when the Bible tells us that Jesus prayed, the substance of the prayer is not given. There seems to be only one reason why Jesus prayed aloud to the Father here in the presence of the apostles: He wanted to give them an example. For this reason, we should approach the study of this great prayer with a readiness to learn something about how we should pray; and, more importantly, how we should live.

E. This intercession takes up all of the twenty-six verses of John 17. It concerns the needs of Jesus himself in Verses 1-5, of the disciples in Verses 6-19, and of future believers in Verses 20-26. This lesson deals with the first and last sections of this prayer.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. All will agree that the great passages we are studying this quarter must include portions from the seventeenth chapter of John. In this chapter we have what has been called "The great priestly prayer of our Lord Jesus Christ."

B. This prayer of Jesus teaches us that through the testimony of His followers, and that of those who heard them, the gospel of our Lord was spread down through the centuries unto our day.

C. Furthermore, it teaches us that as saints we form one common community of believers. We may differ in some minor points but all evangelical Christians are one in the common faith. Jesus wanted His disciples to be unified in purpose so they could be better witnesses. He wants the same for you and me today. The greatest community the world has ever known is the fellowship of believers, whatever their denominational affiliations may be. In this way we praise our Lord who rejoices in our unity.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

If You Will Pray for Me—We are told that the man who was one time secretary of evangelism for the Alabama Conference of the Methodist Church had the habit of walking up to strangers and saying "Will you pray for me?" He did this one day in a downtown department store, and the lady asked, "What kind of trouble are you in?" Do we believe in prayer only when we are in trouble? **—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

AVENUES OF SERVICE

(Continued from Page 5)

lesignated amount to the Fund ather than pay a monthly remium to an insurance com- any. The program will be ad- ninistered by the Sauls' In- urance Agency of Golds- oro, North Carolina. The agen- y also collects the contribu- ions and handles the payment f claims. To protect the MBF rogram against unusually arge claims, insurance will be urchased which will pay any laims above a set amount. In- ormation can be secured by riting MBF, Box 10369, oldsboro, NC 27532.

. Insurance

The Board offers a $2,000 hole life, life paid up at age 65 r a 20-pay life insurance policy or any Original Free Will Bap- st minister who can qualify or life insurance. The Board ill pay 66⅔% of the remiums; however, the inister will be required to gn a limited assignment for e life insurance protecting e Board.

Group cancer insurance is lso available through the oard; information and ap- lication blanks will be fur- ished upon request to inisters or members of his mily.

. Ministers' Widows' Fund

This is a fund in which every riginal Free Will Baptist inister can participate in the mount of $10 (every time a articipating minister dies). he total amount in the Fund ill be available **only** to wives hose husbands have actively articipated in the Fund for a eriod of one year or longer. or wives whose husbands ave actively participated in is Fund for less than one ear, one-half of the total mount in the Fund will be vailable to them at the time of eir husband's death.

Following the death of one no is participating in the Fund, the ministers are notified that a new fund will be set up and those who desire to participate respond.

III. CONCLUSION

What can you do to help the Superannuation program? You can pray for the program and the members of the Board. Through your church you can support the program regularly with your financial gifts.

Remember your financial gifts for the program of Superannuation help the Board to provide this program for our churches. Then your assistance for your pastor makes it possible for him to participate in this program and have the benefits offered.

LAUGHINGHOUSE FAMILY HAS REUNION

(Continued from Page 11)

Members of the family of the late Rev. William Henry (W.H.) Laughinghouse met for morning worship on Sunday, September 13, at Rose Hill Church near Winterville. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Roger Dixon, his great grandson. Mr. Laughinghouse was pastor of Rose Hill Church at the time of his death. Mr. Dixon and his wife, Janice, are missionaries in Indonesia. (They are presently on leave, but will be returning to Indonesia this fall.) Included in the services was a vocal selection by the Rev. Robert Hensley, accompanied at the piano by his wife, the former Betty Jo Carroll, who is a granddaughter of Mr. Laughinghouse. Mr. Hensley and his wife are also missionaries and have just returned from Panama, where they have been serving.

Following church services, 55 descendants of Mr. Laughinghouse gathered at the Three Steers Restaurant for lunch. With the exception of Mrs. Malissa Rouse (age 91) of Winterville, all of Mr. Laughinghouse's surviving children were present at the luncheon. They included: Mrs. J. J. (Daisy) Carroll, Mrs. L. E. (Wesley) Turnage, Mrs. Lloyd (Lela) Williams, Jesse Laughinghouse, and Furney Laughinghouse. Others present included grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren and spouses of some of those present. One other descendant following in the footsteps of Mr. Laughinghouse is the Rev. Leon Harris, a great-great-grandson. Mr. Harris resides in Ayden.

Other than being just another family gathering, one item of business was discussed—that of establishing a scholarship fund at Mount Olive College to honor the memory of Mr. Laughinghouse, who spent over fifty years in the ministry. A generous contribution to the fund was collected at the luncheon.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

defensiveness. But the tragedy is we have not identified our real enemy. If God were to draw back the curtains that hide the enemy in his spiritual activity, we would find that we are, in reality, fighting the evil one—not our Christian brothers and sisters. It is most alarming when we fight among ourselves, for then we comply with the strategy of the diabolical—a strategy that often seems to cause division; and God is glorified through unity. We must not align ourselves with the enemy or mistake our brothers and sisters as our foes.

Before we continue in our battle, let's lower our guns and identify those at whom we are aiming.

Ready to Serve You!

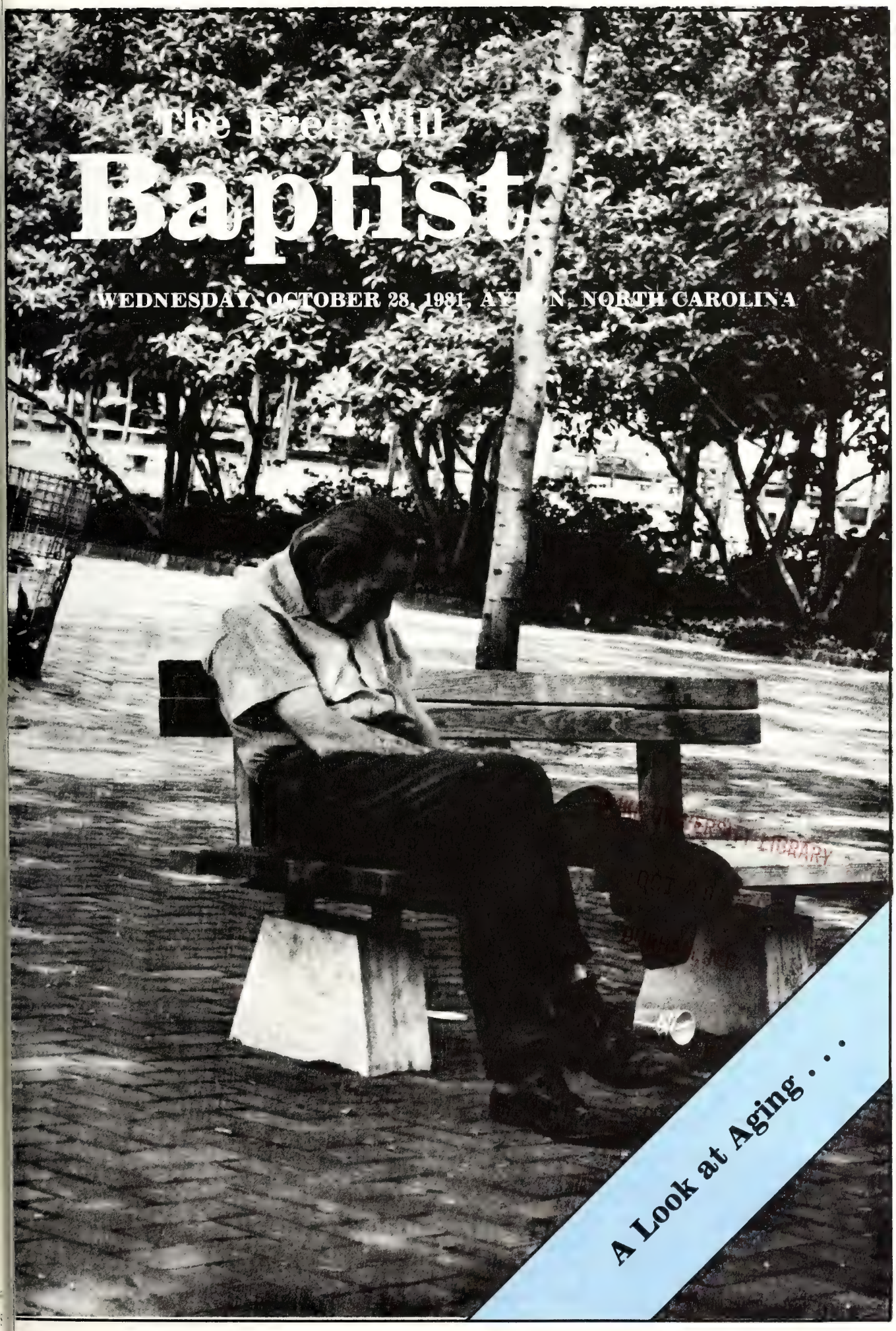
The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative class work, fiberglass church steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so that we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.



Five Locations to Serve You

Ayden New Bern Smithfield
Wilson Kinston

F857w



The Free Will

Baptist

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1981, A[illegible]N, NORTH CAROLINA

LIBRARY

A Look at Aging . . .

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Ed Carlin

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Volume 96 Number 40

October 28, 1981

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Grandma's Glasses

Two young boys were talking together. One of the lads asked the other, "Wouldn't you hate to wear glasses?"

"No," he answered, "not if they were the kind my grandma wears! My mother says she always sees when folks are tired and sad. She sees whenever a neighbor is in need. She never fails to recognize things at the right time." The lad continued, "I asked grandma one day how it was that she could see that way. She explained it like this: 'It's the way I've learned to look at things since I've gotten older.' So I just know it's those glasses of hers!"

(No doubt it is the love of God in her heart—not the glasses.)

—adapted from *The Sword of the Lord*

An Editorial Comment



THE Throwaway People?

Growing old in America lacks the honor and respect that it was given in years gone by. Ours is a youth-oriented society; and as a result, often when youth is gone, so is the glamor of living. It is not hard to understand why the cosmetic business earns billions of dollars each year—we **all** try to conceal what the aging process is doing to us.

The attitude that prevails in the United States concerning aging is true for all industrial societies; youth is preferred; it is seen as being desirable. But in pre-industrial cultures, the elderly are respected, for they have mastered the craft skills, the basics of economic production. In such situations, those who are young look with awe at older individuals—they know how to do, with perfection, what the young want to learn.

Today, old age usually means retirement. Some see this as a welcome period of life. Most covertly dread it; this is particularly true of men whose whole identity has been wrapped up in their job. When they retire, they lose their definition of who they really are; they often find themselves stripped of earlier symbols of success. Days once filled with important tasks become unbearable because of an abundance of time. Wives then complain that their husbands follow them around all day. Women consider divorcing their spouses because they've lost all respect for them; they are seen as being pathetic personalities. On the other hand, women characteristically handle retirement much more easily. They usually experience no traumatic transience while moving toward their twilight years.

Another major problem involved in the aging process is money. Older individuals often feel economically worthless, insignificant, and insecure. Their feeling of failure is only heightened when they are confined to small, dilapidated apartments. Inflation lessens the buying power of senior citizens and greatly diminishes the significance of their savings.

Older persons do not wish to be burdens to their families, but they see long-stay institutions as bad. Whereas church-related retirement homes often enhance one's personal worth, other facilities can unintentionally strip people of their dignity. It is not uncommon for family members to leave elderly persons in homes as vegetating creatures who wonder why death hasn't come. Stripped of their personhood, these individuals handle their plight by emotionally detaching themselves from their environment and traveling via their memory and imagination to a time and place where things are better.

Churches **should** sponsor activities for senior citizens; as Christians, we have a responsibility to honor the elderly who have served us and the cause of

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Christ so faithfully. We should do so now—there is no reason to wait. The church can give older adults a sense of status; it can help them feel as though they have lived successfully and that they are successful. There is also a lot of work senior citizens can do within the church.

Ultimately, it is the church that speaks the final word concerning the value of life. And when we face death, much of what we deemed so significant will appear meaningless. Death forces us to view as worthless much of that for which we have worked. During one's waning years, it is normal for an individual to sense himself moving inexorably toward the final threat to his wealth, power, and prestige. A German philosopher said that that is the reason "we make so much noise New Year's Eve—because we are trying to drown out the macabre sound of grass growing over our own graves." But the gospel, the good news, relates that our efforts for Christ will not evaporate—neither will His promises. Jesus Christ has conquered death, Hell, and the grave!

We must remember that it is young people who usually vote and make the decisions that determine the fate of the elderly; we also help create the conditions where we must eventually live. We should also remember that the Scriptures are particularly concerned about the plight of the elderly and the way people treat them.

Older individuals are not "throwaway people"! Growing old should not be equated with being less important or less of a person. We—you and I—need to consider our attitudes. There is no reason for us to be obsessed with youth. Let's consider the status and role of the aged. Afterwards, may we improve them.

FACTS ON AGING

Many of us don't want to age; some feel that aging is a disease; still others prefer getting old only to death. Perchance our negative feelings are the result of a condition known as "gerontophobia," the fear of old age; and it is manifested in many ways, the most prevalent being that people won't touch elderly folks for fear of "catching" old age.

Then again, most of our misgivings are the result of a lack of knowledge. How much do you know about the aging process? Answer the following questions to find out; each should be answered true or false.

(The "aged" and "old people" are defined as those over age 65.)

_____ 1. The majority of old people are senile (defective memory, disoriented, or demented).
_____ 2. All five senses tend to decline in old age.
_____ 3. The majority of old people feel miserable most of the time.
_____ 4. Physical strength tends to decline in old age.
_____ 5. At least one-tenth of the aged are living in long-stay institutions (nursing homes, mental hospitals, homes for the aged, and so on).
_____ 6. Aged drivers have fewer accidents per driver than drivers under age 65.
_____ 7. Most older workers cannot work as effectively as younger workers.
_____ 8. About eighty percent of the aged are healthy enough to carry out their normal activities.
_____ 9. Most old people are set in their ways and unable to change.
_____10. Old people usually take longer to learn something new.
_____11. It is almost impossible for most old people to learn something new.
_____12. The reaction time of most old people tends to be slower than the reaction time of younger people.
_____13. In general, most old people are pretty much alike.
_____14. The majority of old people report that they are seldom bored.
_____15. The majority of old people are socially isolated and lonely.
_____16. Older workers have fewer accidents than younger workers.
_____17. Over 15 percent of the United States population are now age 65 or older.
_____18. Most medical practitioners tend to give low priority to the aged.
_____19. The majority of older people have incomes below the poverty level (as defined by the Federal Government).
_____20. The majority of old people are working or would like to have some kind of work to do (including housework and volunteer work).
_____21. Older people tend to become more religious as they age.

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News from the

Woman's Auxiliary

RECEIVES LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

At the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention which convened at Spring Hope Church on September 24, a Life Membership Award was presented to Mrs. Sybil Godley. The award was presented by Mrs. Mildred Jenkins, who made the following remarks.

Mrs. Sybil Godley

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies" (Proverbs 31:10). "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance . . ." (Proverbs 15:13).

The one we are honoring today is a very special person, not only to me, but to many people with whom she has come into contact through the years. She moved to New Bern after her marriage in 1928 and soon was an active member of St. Mary's Church, where she worked faithfully and diligently in every phase of the work. Serving on many committees, she also worked as a secretary and teacher in the beginners and primary departments of the Sunday school, was a sponsor for the primary department of the league, and held almost every office in the local woman's auxiliary.

During this time she was also working outside the home, her first job being with Cohen and Goldman. In 1943, she became a full-time employee of Belk's Department Store and was employed there for 26 years, serving as manager of the drapery department for 22 years. She handled the many responsibilities associated with her job in a very efficient manner and was loved and respected by fellow employees with whom she worked until her retirement in 1970.

Responsibilities at home and with her job did not prevent or hinder her activities in the church as throughout this time she was serving her Lord "with gladness." She always had a smile on her face and a cheerful word from her heart for everyone. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine . . ." (Proverbs 17:22). My children, as well as the other young people at St. Mary's, enjoyed her so much and looked forward to her visits in our home. They laughed together, played jokes on each other and had good, clean fun.

After our honoree retired from Belk's in 1970, she moved to Bogue Sound, Newport, and moved her church membership from St. Mary's to Sound View Church. Again, she became an active member in the church, Sunday school and woman's auxiliary. Her commitments included serving as church clerk from 1974-1980, secretary of the woman's auxiliary from 1971-1977, mission chairman in 1979, and study course chairman in 1980.

While living in New Bern, she was an active member of the New Bern Pilot Club, and since residing in Carteret County has been active in the Home Extension Club, having many of her crafts on display in her home. In her retirement she derives a great deal of joy from her flowers and garden, which occupy a great deal of her time.

With all her activities and her deep commitment to God and her church, she has lived a very active and productive life. Her commitment to God and her church is followed very closely by her commitment to her family, friends and neighbors. She is never too busy to help meet the needs of others, to visit a shut-in or offer a word of encouragement to the downhearted. She truly lives the words of Jesus who said ". . . Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25: 40).

This poem by Helen Steiner Rice describes our honoree, Mrs. Sybil Godley.

HEART GIFTS

It's not the things that can be bought
That are life's richest treasure,
It's just the little "heart gifts"
That money cannot measure.

A cheerful smile, a friendly word
A sympathetic nod
Are priceless little treasures
From the storehouse of our God.

They are the things that cannot be bought
With silver or with gold.
For thoughtfulness and kindness
And love are never sold.

They are the priceless things in life
For which no one can pay
And the giver finds rich recompense
In giving them away.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY MEMBERS HONORED

Three members of the Woman's Auxiliary of Holly Springs Church, Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina, were honored during the 7 p.m. worship service at the church recently.

Receiving Woman's Auxiliary pins were Mrs. Nellie Atkinson, Mrs. Ruth Hinton, and Mrs. Orabelle Nichols.

They were cited for having been long-time faithful members of the auxiliary, faithful in attendance and service, as well as devotion to God, the church, and the denomination.

Jonas Hinton led the opening prayer. Mrs. Diane Creech was in charge of the ceremony. She

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noted that the three honorees have set examples for the younger women to follow in devoting much of their time and talent to all phases of Christian service to the church.

Mrs. Atkinson and Mrs. Hinton have served in all capacities in the auxiliary for 40 years. Mrs. Nichols has given 30 years of devoted service.

The presentation of the pins was made by Mrs. Frances Pope. Mrs. Pope lit a white candle as a symbol of Christ being the light of the world. "We must let our lights shine as younger women just as these women have allowed their lights to shine through the years," commented Mrs. Pope.

Each honoree lit a candle and placed it in a holder to represent the strength the Lord had blessed her with in her years of untiring work.

The church pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, prayed a prayer of dedication.

The service was presented in a setting of a white cross entwined with miniature ivy and white candles in crystal holders.

Mr. Denny Creech prayed the benediction.

Mrs. Ruth Hinton

HOMECOMING SCHEDULED AT BEAUFORT CHURCH

Beaufort Church will celebrate its annual homecoming service on Sunday, November 1. The Rev. James Gurganus, pastor, will deliver the morning message.

Lunch will be served on the grounds at the noon hour. A singspiration featuring singers from the church will be held after lunch.

Friends and relatives are invited to come and share in this time of fellowship.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*



It's Supposed to Be Rewarding

People who flourish in retirement are those who have a strong sense of identity and purpose, whose main concern is for the whole of mankind, not just one's self. Most ministers fit this description pretty well.

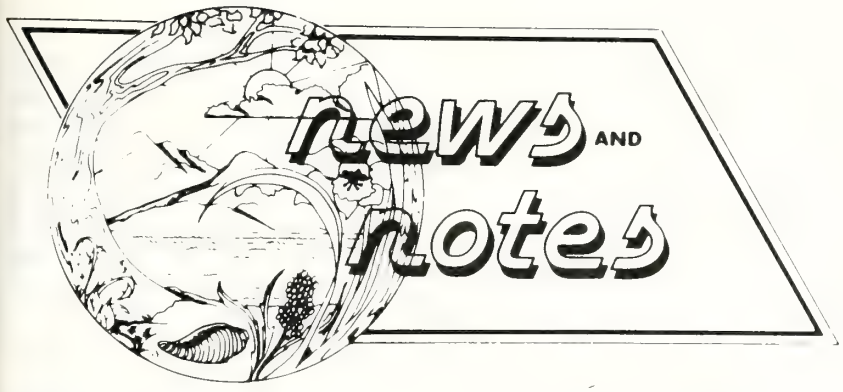
But retirement does mean a change. And change is difficult for almost all of us. That's why planning is so essential.

If you simply ignore the problem, it won't go away. Sooner or later you'll have to face the fact that next month's paycheck is the last paycheck. You will no longer have an office. If you live in a church-owned home, you'll have to move.

This experience can be an exciting release, freeing you for things you've always wanted to try. Or it can be a devastating upheaval.

It's your choice. If you have the foresight to take the controls right now, your retirement can be one of the best things that ever happened to you.

October is Superannuation month. Support the program; and if you are interested in how the program can help you, write for information. The address is Board of Superannuation, Box 474, Ayden, NC 28513; or call 746-6128.



Revival to Be Held At Stancill's Chapel Church



The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

Revival services will be held at Stancill's Chapel Church, Route 2, Kenly, November 2 through November 7. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark is the evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. J. B. Godwin is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Central Conference To Meet

The 233rd Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will convene at Hugo Church, near Grifton, on November 4. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Calvin Heath
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Tom Miller
—Response, Mrs. E. C. Davenport
10:20—Moderator's Message, the Rev. Willis Wilson
—Recognition of Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Report of the State Convention, the Rev. David Charles Hansley
10:35—Report of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
10:40—Report of Superannuation
10:45—Report of Mount Olive College
10:50—Report of Cragmont Assembly
10:55—Report of Children's Home
—Report of Retirement Homes
11:00—Report of Foreign Missions
11:05—Report of Church Finance Association
11:10—Report of Home Missions
11:15—Report of Board of Ordination
11:25—Report of Obituary Committee
11:30—Message, the Rev. Tom Miller
12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Ray Williamson
1:05—Business Period
—Credentials Committee Report
—Executive Board Report
—Central Conference Missions Report
—Trustees Report
—Historian's Report
—Temperance Committee Report
—Resolutions Committee Report
—Treasurer's Report
—Nominating Committee Report
—Final Business
—Adjournment

Wintergreen Church to Have Revival and Homecoming

Wintergreen Church will observe its homecoming on November 1. The Rev. Donald Walston, pastor, will bring the morning message.

Revival services will begin on November 9 and will continue through November 13. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Cedric Pierce is the evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services at First Church, Wilson

Revival services will be held at First Church, Wilson, Monday, November 2, through Friday, November 6. The services will begin each evening at 7:30. There will be special music throughout the week and a nursery will be provided. The Rev. Harry Grubbs, pastor of First Church, Greenville, will be the evangelist. The Rev. Craig Simmons, pastor, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend these services.

Revival to Be at St. Paul Church

St. Paul Church of Elizabeth City announces its fall revival. Services will begin November 9 and will continue through November 13. The time of the services is 7:30 nightly. The Rev. Wayne Watson, pastor of Elwood Lane Church in Kannapolis, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Joe Griffith is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

Cape Fear Conference To Meet

The 127th Session of the Cape Fear Conference will meet at Casey's Chapel Church, Goldsboro, on October 29, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

8:30—Registration
9:00—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Rod Jones
—Welcome, the Rev. C. Bryant Hines Jr.
—Response, the Rev. T. C. Farmer
9:15—Call to Order
—Registration Rules Explanation by Credentials Committee Chairman
—Roll Call of Officers
—Roll Call of Churches
—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin
—Appointment of Committees
9:45—Mount Olive College Report
10:00—Children's Home Report
10:15—Denominational Enterprises Reports
11:15—Congregational Singing
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Special Music
—Sermon, the Rev. Arnold Price
12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Mike Scott
1:25—Report of Standing Committees
—Executive Committee
—Ordaining Council
—Sunday School Convention
—Cape Fear Mission Board
—Woman's Auxiliary
—Cape Fear Ministers' Conference
—Board of Education
2:15—Report of Temporary Committees
—Temperance
—Resolution
—Obituary
—Credentials
—Nominating
3:00—Business Session
—Treasurer's Report, Mr. Harvey Hinson
—Adjournment

Song Director, Mr. Johnnie Woodall

Free Union Church To Have Homecoming

Free Union Church, near Pinetown, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, November 1, 1981. Everyone is invited to attend and fellowship in these services. The Rev. David Thick is pastor of the church.

Continue in brotherly love.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

Dear Free Will Baptists,

Last month an article appeared in this paper telling the current financial status of Cragmont Assembly and detailed some of the 1981 expenses we have experienced. At that time my words were somewhat relaxed because of the confidence I had that sufficient funds were forthcoming to meet our annual payment of $43,750 by November 14th, the due date. That confidence was due to the way in which you responded last year to our financial need.

Your response this year, however, has been one of very little impact. At this writing we are three weeks before the payment due date and $15,000 short.

Contributions have been at about $40,000 below last year. We know the money is out there and we know that you want Cragmont to meet its obligations and continue its program. The only way we can continue to operate is for you to send your support NOW!!!

The articles by visiting groups that have appeared in this paper about Cragmont and your own Cragmont experiences serve as testimony to the positive influence that Cragmont has on our denomination.

Whether or not Cragmont continues to function is up to you. We are in a critical situation and need your monetary and prayerful support. We can meet this payment if everyone does his part—ACT TODAY.

Thanking you as always.

Sincerely,

John R. Watson

John R. Watson, *Treasurer*

News from

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

Statement of Receipts
Through October 1, 1981

ORTH CAROLINA STATE GENCIES	
riginal Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association	$ 402.00
ate Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues	548.94
ate Youth Convention	2,536.00
ree Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention	4,388.42
Total	$ 7,875.36
REE WILL BAPTIST 'OMAN'S AUXILIARIES	
elia Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary (Ayden)	$ 50.00
ilda's Grove Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
reenville Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	90.00
riendship Woman's Auxiliary (Middlesex)	40.00
anice H. Overman Ladies Auxiliary	10.00
wen's Chapel Ladies Auxiliary	75.00
iney Grove Ladies Circle #1 (Greenville)	11.78
weet Gum Grove Auxiliary Circle #1 (Greenville)	10.00
nion Grove Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
Total	$ 326.78
LBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
lbemarle Union Meeting	$ 57.24
ree Union, Belhaven	95.00
lickory Chapel	751.08
lount Tabor	46.45
lymouth, First	50.00
hiloh	11.20
idney	129.59
aint Paul, Elizabeth City	100.00
nion Chapel	53.26
Total	$ 1,293.82
APE FEAR CONFERENCE	
atalpa	$ 100.00
oldsboro, First	250.00
laymount Mission	229.13
lopewell	55.97
ee's Chapel	178.08
ee's Chapel Sunday School	68.19
lount Olive	50.00
almer Memorial	200.26
leasant Grove, Dunn	100.00
owhatan	150.00
hady Grove	300.00
aint Mary's, Benson	300.00
Saint Paul, Newton Grove	75.00
Victory	81.98
Wooten's Chapel	169.17
Total	$ 2,307.78
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Aspen Grove	$ 50.00
Aspen Grove Layman's League	25.00
Aspen Grove Young Adult Class	25.00
Ayden	265.00
Bethany	125.00
Black Jack	1,354.80
Community	46.91
Daniels Chapel	750.00
Dilda's Grove	131.64
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	49.04
Edgewood	90.00
Elm Grove	210.00
Fidelis Memorial Class, Reedy Branch	80.00
Fourth Union Convention	19.24
Free Union, Walstonburg	500.00
Friendship	1,680.00
Greenville, First	595.00
Greenville, Willing Workers Sunday School	90.00
Grimsley	225.00
Gum Swamp	150.00
Hickory Grove	225.00
Hugo	500.00
Hull Road	600.00
King's Cross Roads Sunday School	11.47
King's Cross Roads	11.25
Layman's League	621.55
Little Creek	100.00
Marlboro	400.00
Otter's Creek Sunday School	25.05
Otter's Creek	358.49
Owens Chapel	200.00
Peace	55.00
Piney Grove, Greenville	773.22
Reedy Branch	25.00
Reedy Branch Sunday School	151.04
Roanoke Rapids, First	12.44
Rocky Mount, First	175.00
Rose of Sharon	100.00
Rose Hill Sunday School	150.00
Saratoga	32.66
Second Union Meeting	40.90
Spring Branch	175.00
Tarboro, First	850.00
Williamston, First	94.52
Winterville	102.00
Total	$12,293.22
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Arapahoe	$ 200.00
Bethlehem	100.00
Bridgeton	65.00
Cabin	25.00
Crab Point	50.00
Croatan	50.00
Davis Original	100.00
Deep Run	168.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	45.00
Fifth Union	75.00
Folkstone	320.00
Gray Branch	100.00
Holly Springs, Newport	650.00
Jackson Heights	128.92
Juniper Chapel	1,080.32
Kinston, First	320.00
Macedonia	100.00
May's Chapel	100.00
Mount Zion, Vandemere	100.00
Mount Zion, Beulaville	25.00
Northeast	10.00
Oriental	40.00
Pearsall Chapel	85.00
Pilgrims Rest	100.00
Piney Grove, Deep Run	50.00
Rooty Branch	75.00
Saints Delight	350.00
Sandy Plain	103.79
Smith's New Home	150.00
Snow Hill	100.00
Sound View	50.00
St. Mary's, New Bern	697.50
Third Eastern District	150.00
Third Union District Sunday School	25.00
Third Union District	238.20
Verona	150.00
Wardens Grove	99.16
Warsaw	50.00
Welcome Home	20.00
Whaley's Chapel	75.00
White Oak Grove	124.00
Total	$ 6,544.89
PEE DEE CONFERENCE	
Beaverdam Youth Fellowship	$ 554.11
Beaverdam Church and Sunday School	450.00
Oak Grove, Bladenboro	157.92
Pee Dee Union #1	10.00
White Oak, Clarkton	46.12
Total	$ 1,218.15
PIEDMONT CONFERENCE	
Advance Mission	$ 19.25
Highland Pines	100.00
High Point	107.21
Total	$ 226.46

(Continued on Page 15)

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DR. EUGENE POSTON IS GUEST SPEAKER



Dr. Eugene Poston

Dr. Eugene Poston of Mooresville, North Carolina, was a guest speaker for the fall faculty conference at Mount Olive College. Dr. Poston spoke to the faculty concerning the growth of Mount Olive College into a four-year institution and related his experience as president of Gardner-Webb College.

Dr. Poston emphasized that the keys to a successful four-year program are the faculty, the students, and the books. To the faculty, he said, "First, be committed to the purpose of this institution, which is Christian education. Then, develop yourselves educationally as fully as you can." Dr. Poston advised that the best way to implement his suggestion would be to encourage faculty members already employed by the College to pursue doctorate degrees while on academic leave.

In recruiting students, Dr. Poston said that the College must reach out and find "Christian vocation students," and "those capable of seeing beyond education as a means to material gain." In establishing a four-year curriculum, first priority is being given to a major in religion, although others will be added with the approval of the board of trustees.

New books for the library must also be added so that students who enroll in a four-year program can have adequate resources for research. Also, with the growth of Mount Olive into a four-year college, Dr. Poston recommended increased emphasis on research and publishing by the faculty.

Dr. Poston concluded by emphasizing the importance of the Free Will Baptist Church in the growth of the College, and recommending that the steering committee responsible for guiding the transition process maintain close ties with the Free Will Baptist Church.

Dr. Poston is currently a regional sales director for ARA Services, Inc., a food contract service. He served as president of Gardner-Webb College from 1961 until 1976. During his administration, the school became a fully accredited four-year college, having graduated the first baccalaureate degree class in the spring of 1971.

Dr. Poston has served Southern Baptist pastorates in North Carolina, Kentucky, and Georgia. During the past year he has been serving as interim pastor of the Heritage Original Free Will Baptist Mission in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he holds membership.

ORIENTAL RETREAT PLANNED

Students from Mount Olive College who wish to participate will be going to Oriental on October 30, for a retreat sponsored by campus religious life organizations.

Students who attend will participate in a variety of recreational and religious activities during the weekend.

On Friday, October 30, the Rev. Marvin Waters of St. Mary's Church, New Bern, will speak on the retreat theme, Acts 1:8—"But ye shall receive power."

Saturday, October 31, a singspiration will be held at 7:30 p.m., Oriental Church. This aspect of the program is open to anyone who would like to join the students and church members.

Students will return to campus on Sunday, November 1.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Daniels Chapel Church, Wilson County, on Sunday, November 1, at 11 a.m. The church will be observing Mount Olive College Day. During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college.

The pastor is the Rev. David C. Hansley.

COLLEGE DAY SERVICES TO BE HELD

Mount Olive College will be sending representatives from the faculty and staff to Union Grove, Piney Grove, and Oriental Free Will Baptist Churches for College Day services. The purpose of these services is to

ocus on the role of Mount Olive ollege in relation to Free Will aptist Churches.



Dr. Michael Pelt

On October 25, Dr. Michael elt, chairman of the Depart- ient of Religion, will be guest peaker for the 11 a.m. worship ervice at Union Grove Church, Vayne County. The Rev. Bob larber is pastor of Union rove.

Dr. Pelt will also speak on ovember 1, College Day at Piney Grove Church, Pitt County. The service will be held at 11 a.m. The Rev. Allan Sterbin is pastor of Piney Grove.



The Rev. Frank Harrison

Frank Harrison, chaplain, will speak at Oriental Church on November 1, at 11 a.m. This Sunday is also College Day at Oriental. The Rev. Ralph Sumner is the pastor.

NEWS OF EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH

Saturday, September 19, was special day for the youth of ne Eastern Conference. It was ne fall convention. The conven- on was held at Gray Branch hurch with over 220 delegates resent. We, the Executive ommittee, would like to thank he youth and their leaders for aking this meeting a success. ur program, music and skits ould not have been possible ithout your cooperation and rayers. The Lord has been so ood to us. As we joined hands utside for the closing prayer, here was a feeling of unity and urpose among the delegates. I eard it remarked by several, I'm glad I came today"; "I lt the Lord's presence here"; nd "It's been a long time since ve seen so many young people gether in one place."

Our next convention will be eld in the spring on March 20, 982. We will be meeting at Camp Vandemere. See you there!

Deborah King
Eastern District Youth Chairman

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Donald Walston announces that he has a new address. It is Route 1, Box 266-A, Cove City, North Carolina 28523; phone 633-3792. His old address was P.O. Box 7231, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

The Rev. Ray Williamson announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 6, Box 147-A, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; phone 758-4356. His old address was Route 1, Box 3, Grantsboro, North Carolina 28529.

The Rev. William L. Littleton announces that he now has a new address. It is P. O. Box 81, Lowland, North Carolina 28552-0081. His old address was Route 1, Box 299, Beulaville, North Carolina 28518.

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October—Time to order Sunday School Literature for December, January, February from the Free Will Baptist Press

October 31—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 3—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 1 p.m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 3—Pee Dee Association Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Cypress Creek Church, Whiteville

November 4—Central Conference, Hugo Church near Grifton

November 7—Piedmont Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention, East Rockingham Church, Rockingham

November 8—Children's Home Day in local churches (if your church does not meet on this Sunday, choose another convenient Sunday)

November 10—Foreign Missions Board of Directors Meeting

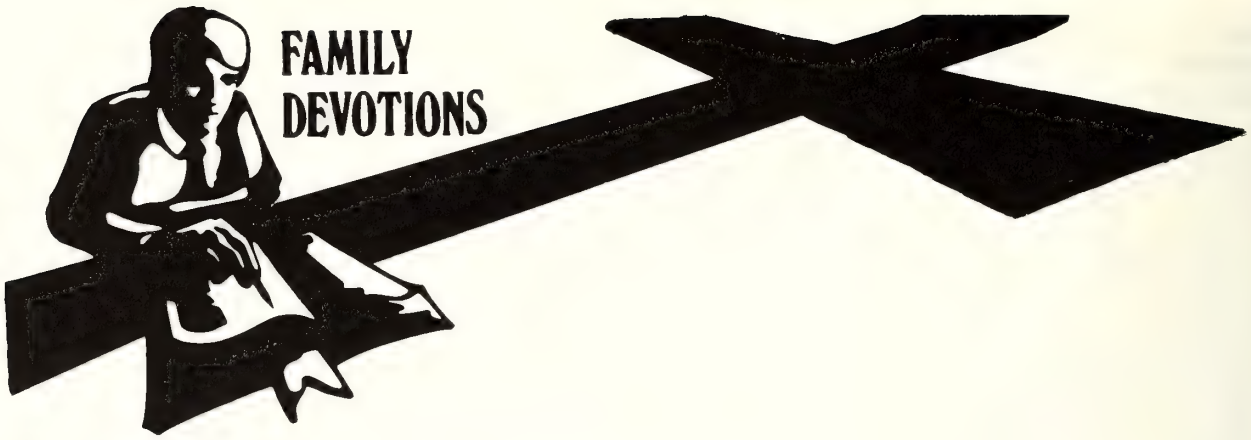
November 11—Children's Home Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 21—Thanksgiving Services, 10:30 a.m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

November 26—Thanksgiving Day

November 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 29—Mount Olive College Day in local churches



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Psalm 102

POWER TO THE FAINT

The Bible does not say that the Lord helps those who help themselves. The Lord helps those who admit their helplessness: "O our God . . . we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee" (2 Chronicles 20:12).

Help of the helpless,
O abide with me.

PRAYER THOUGHT

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength (Isaiah 40:29).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—James 1:19-27

LOUD PREACHING—
EVIL TEMPERS

In his *Letter to a Young Minister,* John Newton said, "Very loud preaching is a bad habit. People are seldom, if ever, stunned into the love of the truth."

In warning against angry, scolding preaching, he wrote, "If we indulge invective and bitterness in the pulpit, we are but gratifying our own evil tempers, under the pretense of a concern for the cause of God and truth. A preacher of this kind may be compared to the madman in the Proverbs, who scattereth at random firebrands, arrows and death. Such persons may applaud their own courage, but they forget that 'the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God' " (James 1:20).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath (James 1:19).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—1 John 5

DR. SIMPSON'S
CONNECTION WITH GOD

For years, Dr. A. B. Simpson had poor health. When he was only 38 years old, a famous New York physician told him that his days were numbered.

The physician's diagnosis only underscored his physical helplessness. The minister knew that he always preached with great effort. Climbing stairs or even a slight elevation was a suffocating agony of breathlessness.

One day at Old Orchard, Maine, Dr. Simpson attended a unique religious service which sent him back to his Bible to find out for himself about Christ's attitude toward disease. He became convinced that Jesus had always meant healing to be a part of His gospel—the redemption of man's total being.

Soon after this revelation, Dr. Simpson took a walk. Coming to a pine woods, he sat down on a log to rest. Soon he found himself praying, telling God of his complete helplessness with regard to his physical condition. He then asked Christ to enter him and to become his physical life for all the needs of his body, until his lifework was done.

"There in the woods, I made a connection with God," he said later. "Every fiber in me was tingling with the sense of God's presence!"

Sometime thereafter, Simpson climbed a mountain 3,000 feet high! "When I reached the top," he related joyfully, "the world of weakness and fear was lying at my feet. From that time I had literally a new heart in my breast!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The promise is sure: "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us" (1 John 5:14).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER

Scripture Reading—Psalm 107

PRACTICAL PRAYER

Hoping to wake up the lethargic lawmakers in a session of Indiana's State Senate, L. Ray Sells, a stocky Methodist preacher who worked on the poor side of town, prayed, "How are we doing, God? We've made our deals, given our reports, and delivered our great speeches. Did you hear us, God? We're hung up, God. Help us to see beyond the chair ahead of us, beyond this chamber. Help us leap the barriers of our part

and most of all, help us overcome our urge to be mediocre. Help us to see the poor and the sick and the hungry who want food. Help us hear those who cry for justice in the land. Help us make life better for all, and not more comfortable for the few. Whip us into shape, God, and hound us until we do what needs to be done. Make our nights restless and our steaks tough, until we care as much for others as we care for our political necks!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness . . . (Psalm 107:8).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—John 13:1-17

"HIS WAY IS PERFECT"

When searching for David Livingstone, Henry M. Stanley had a most unusual reception from King Mutesa in Uganda. The queen had a strange dream about the white man's God and His Son Jesus Christ shortly before Stanley's arrival. She related her dream after the arrival of Stanley at the royal house.

The king and queen pleaded with Stanley to send a letter to England and ask for a missionary teacher to be sent to them. He wrote the letter and sent it out by a young Frenchman who was leaving Stanley's party.

The bearer of the letter was murdered. Several months later his body was found by some British soldiers. Searching through his clothes, they found Stanley's letter in one of his boots. They sent it to England, where it was featured in the *Daily Telegraph.*

Great interest was aroused. When the Church Missionary Society appealed for missionary volunteers to go to King Mutesa's land, seven young men responded!

Often we do not understand why God allows certain things to occur: "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter" (John 13:7).

PRAYER THOUGHT

This is certain: "As for God, his way is perfect" (Psalm 18:30).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 11

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Said J. Edgar Hoover, "The men who laid the foundations and reared the soaring arches of our great nation had a vigorous, indomitable, and all-encompassing faith in God. Faith permeated their thoughts, words and deeds.

Said Thomas Jefferson, "I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man."

When the fires of hope flickered to embers, George Washington knelt in the snow at Valley Forge and importuned for divine help.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—Psalm 104

GOD HAS SECRETS

Antonio Stradivari was the world's greatest violin maker. Commented *Newsweek,* "His instruments are unsurpassed in sweetness and lightness of tone, which grew stronger with the years. It has always been perplexing just why modern violin makers have not been able to produce instruments equal to the old Italian masters of the 17th and 18th centuries. The materials are all on record and available, except the formula for the old varnish, made of oil and gum resin. That not only enriches the tone but it protects the wood and provides a soft luster rather than a shine."

The formula for the varnish which Stradivari used is unknown. It is a secret.

God has His secrets too: "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God" (Deuteronomy 29:29).

PRAYER THOUGHT

In answering the prayers of His children, God sometimes discloses His secrets: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

CHURCH AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Gurney Chase announces that he is available for pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; phone 523-3429. He is a member of the Eastern Conference and is in good standing.

The Rev. Harry A. Jones announces that he is available for pastoral, supply, and/or evangelistic services. He may be contacted by writing him at Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526; phone 527-3262.

Cape Colony Church (Albemarle Conference), Edenton, North Carolina, is in need of a full-time pastor. Any interested party should contact Max Moore, 482-4854; or Paul Chapman, 482-8831.

The Rev. Ray Harrison Jr. is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services and revivals. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 103, Grifton, North Carolina 28530; phone 524-5186.

October is Superannuation Month.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Lesson Text: Romans 8:12-17, 35-39

Memory Verse: Romans 8:28

I. INTRODUCTION

The flesh and the devil have managed to overpower all of us at times (Romans 3:23). But there is "grace that is greater than all our sin," as the hymn writer puts it. "Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound" (5:20). In His grace God takes away our sins and makes us righteous.

After saying that, however, Paul adds that there is no excuse for doing wrong. We have died to sin. Death means complete separation. We have nothing to do with sin in our new life (6:1-4).

However, the separation is not so complete as we could wish. The flesh keeps nagging at us, and sometimes it lures us into sin (7:14-19). What then? The wages of sin is death (6:23). Are we doomed, lost beyond hope? No, Jesus still takes our sins away. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus" (8:1). But again Paul insists that freedom from condemnation is not freedom to do wrong. We who are in Christ Jesus "walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (8:1). We are controlled by the Holy Spirit, not by the demands of the flesh, because the Spirit of God lives in us (8:9).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. This eighth chapter of Romans is one of the high watermarks of the Bible. Pick out most any Bible scholar and ask him for a list of his favorite chapters in the Bible, and the chances are that this will be listed among them. In the scope of this lesson we will not be able to deal with all of the truth that presents itself herein, but we will try to deal with the subject of "Life in the Spirit" as it is presented.

B. There are many ways in which this great chapter could be outlined. Since we are dealing with the Holy Spirit as it is presented therein, we have chosen to deal with the ministry of the Spirit, as taken from the book, *Romans, the Gospel of God's Grace,* by Alva J. McClain, published by Moody Press. Romans 8 introduces the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Life (vv. 1-13), the Spirit of Adoption (vv. 14-17), the Spirit of Glory (vv. 18-25), and, the Spirit of Intercession (vv. 26, 27).

C. The Bible Text for today includes the section concerning the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Adoption, plus Verses 35-39. We urge you to read this great chapter over and over until its truth touches your own heart.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. It was a delightful thought to include the Book of Romans in our lesson texts this quarter. A well-known pastor wrote: "The Book of Romans has had more impact upon Christian history than any of the sixty-six books of the Bible. History tells us that Romans led Augustine to Christ; it formed the seedbed of the Protestant Reformatio under Martin Luther. The Boo of Romans led John Wesley t Christ." This minister calle the book "The Roman Road t Renewal."

B. The eighth chapter is th heart of the book and contain some of the greatest thoughts i the Bible. It is our lesson great passage for today.

C. Emphasis on the Hol Spirit is the heart of our tex Children of God are not to liv under bondage to the Law bu in the freedom given by th Spirit. We live in the co sciousness that we ar liberated for the Spirit guidance into great work fo our Lord. Life in the Spirit without a doubt the greatest ex perience any human being ca possibly have.

—**The Advanced Quarterl (F.W.B**

IV. ILLUSTRATING TH LESSON

Spirit Led—Have you eve been faced with a decision ar something within said that yo ought to do one thing, ar something else within said th you ought to do something else This is the warfare between th two natures. If we are going walk by the Spirit of God, w must mortify the flesh ar allow the Spirit who lives with us to lead us in the decisions life. This means that we will walking by the Spirit, not by th flesh.—**The Bible Teach (F.W.B.)**

NOTICE

All conference clerks and secretaries of bodies in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists are reminded that minutes for the *1982 YEARBOOK* are due at the Press 30 days after meetings are held. All are asked to respond accordingly.



All of us have seen cloud formations which remind us of artists' nceptions of the Son of God, but in this case the trees do it. Look refully and you will be able to determine where the illusion ap- ars. (This picture belongs to Mrs. George L. Rouse of Winter- lle, North Carolina.)

Facts on Aging

(Continued from Page 4)

_____22. The majority of old people report that they are seldom irritated or angry.

_____23. The health and socio-economic status of older people (compared to younger people) in the year 2000 will probably be worse or about the same as that of today's older people.

(Revised version of "Facts on Aging," *Gerontologist,* Vol. 17:315-320, 1977.)

How well did you do? To find out, check your responses. Each odd statement is false; even numbered sentences are true.

CRAGMONT

(Continued from Page 9)

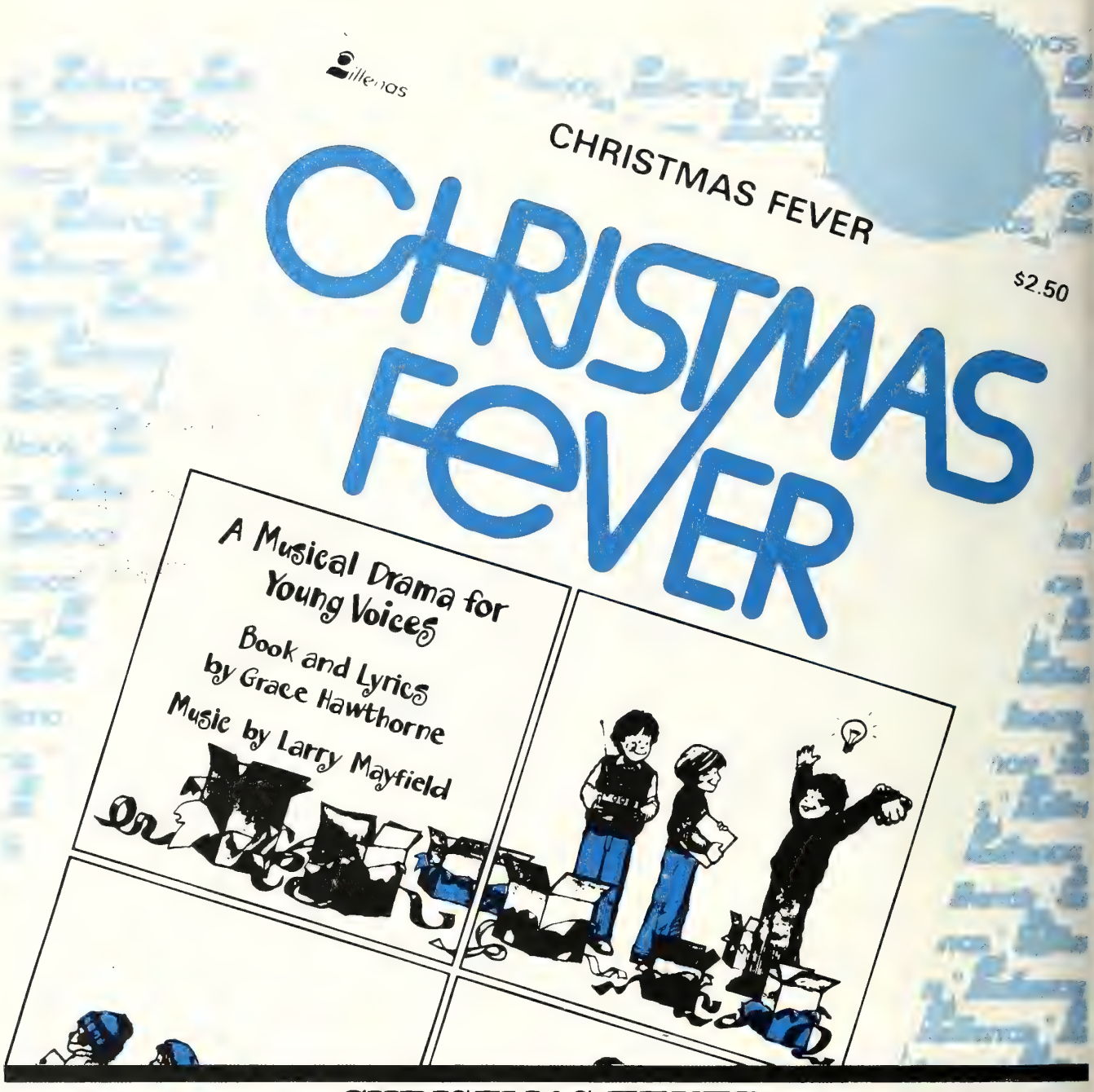
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Total	$13,080.95
Grand Total	$45,167.41

MANAGER RESIGNS

The Rev. Walter Reynolds resigned as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., on June 30; his resignation will be effective on December 30, 1981.

Mr. Reynolds has served as manager of the Foundation for the past 15 years. The ministry of the institution has grown tremendously under his leadership. Upon the completion of his term, he will continue his pastorate at Friendship Church, Farmville, and his work with the Board of Superannuation and the Church Finance Association.

Mr. Reynolds is appreciative of the many kindnesses shown him while he has been serving in the capacity of manager. He requests your continued support and cooperation both for himself and the Foundation.



CHRISTMAS FEVER

When kids get "Christmas Fever" you can expect a lot of good to be the result. And when your children or younger teens present this new GRACE HAWTHORNE-LARRY MAYFIELD musical drama, you're in for an epidemic of joy and love. Seven original songs, in unison and optional 2-part voicing, and a true-to-life story line make this a 30-minute treat (not treatment) for kids and audience alike.
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The Free Will Baptist



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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Church That Once Was

The simple yet elegantly designed edifice was constructed years ago. The men of the community united their efforts, and some of the elderly members of the congregation still tell stories of that event, for the noise of the hammers, saws, and gaiety even now resounds in their minds. Upon a plot of "sacred soil," a "living monument" was raised to God. It gave a silent testimony to all who passed of God's love for all mankind.

Once dedicated to the Lord, the doors of the church were opened. The people came. Soul-stirring sermons were delivered. Songs of faith were sung. Words of praise were lifted. All the saints rejoiced—the women often wept (especially when lost sheep were brought into the fold); even the men wiped an occasional tear from their eyes.

Revivals were conducted and conviction fell. Everyone would gather at the altar—some to pray for family members, neighbors, and friends; others to seek forgiveness for things they had or had not done. Baptismal services were frequent occasions.

Sunday after Sunday, the friendly folks of the church would meet for Sunday school. Many of the youngest children learned their first spiritual lessons within the hallowed walls of the educational wing. They happily left their rooms each week, proudly carrying a card with them (the card bore a picture on one side and the day's Bible story on the other). Older children learned Bible skills while the teenagers surveyed the Scriptures. The adults involved themselves in discussions of deeper theological subjects.

Everyone gathered afterwards for the sermon. (Occasionally, the little girls giggled, the young boys talked, and the older men fell asleep.) As the meeting was drawing to a close, some aged saint would give a tearful admonition; "Children, come!" he would exhort. And come they did—the "children" went on to become men and women dedicated to God.

The church also knew her days of sorrow. Sometimes a father would die; a mother would become deathly sick. There were occasions when young people suffered an untimely demise. Such occurrences moved the whole congregation and somehow made Heaven seem all the more real. The edifice also provided a sanctuary—a place of comfort and rest—for tired, weary pilgrims.

But that was years ago. Where did the glory go?

Revival services and their characteristic shouts of praise have been replaced by outbursts of anger at business meetings. Jealousy and stubbornness have been substituted for songs of joy. Some members of the body of Christ who once embraced as brothers and sisters—even those from the same family—have become rivals. Songs have turned to sighs as singers' feet slipped from the Rock.

But then again, the events may have been less dramatic. Old Testament backsliding and Laodicean lukewarmness gave way to dwindling attendance. The few faithful continued

(Continued on Page 14)

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 96 Number 41
November 4, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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A MEANINGFUL CHURCH

by the Rev. Fred Rivenbark

LET'S think first of all—What is the church?

The church is not an organization made up of programs and methods committed to attracting members to itself. The church is a living organism, a body of believers who are alive with the life of Jesus Christ.

The church is not buildings, departments and programs and leaders dedicated to earthly display and glorifying self. Instead, the church is people—people who love and care for others.

The Head of the church is Jesus Christ. He is our singular, sovereign Head. We receive our directions from Him! Just as my head is dependent upon my body, so Jesus Christ, the Head of the church, is dependent upon us to carry out His thoughts and His ideas and His plan. Our one major goal is to carry out His will as revealed in His Word.

"And he is the head of the body, the church . . ." (Colossians 1:18).

So we take our marching orders from the Head. We don't tell Him how the church should function. He tells us how He wants it to operate.

I want us to look at the word MEANINGFUL and suggest several ways we can make the church of Jesus Christ a MEANINGFUL CHURCH.

A meaningful church Meets together for worship and fellowship.

A meaningful church Expects the supernatural.

A meaningful church Actively disciples those being saved.

A meaningful church is concerned about the needs of others.

A meaningful church Intercedes for others.

A meaningful church is one where Numbers are added by God.

A meaningful church Goes after the unsaved.

A meaningful church is Filled with the Holy Spirit.

A meaningful church is a United church.

A meaningful church is one whose members love one another.

(1) **M—A meaningful church Meets together for worship and fellowship.**

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1).

At the very beginning of the Bible we read that it is not good for man to be alone. This is the very nature of man. There are tremendous benefits in sharing with other Christians. We need fellowship with other Christians. We need to share together in worship and fellowship and in service for the Lord. There is strength in meeting with other Christians.

"No man is an island." No Christian can paddle his canoe all by himself. God, from the beginning, has ordained that we share together. The Book of 1 John teaches us that we do indeed need one another.

These early believers did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart. Strength and joy are cultivated as we fellowship with one another.

A pastor was trying to talk to a man about the importance of coming to church and being with other Christians. This man said he was a Christian, and the pastor did not deny that he was. But when the pastor urged the man to come to church, the fellow said that he could be just as good a Christian alone.

So while they were sitting in front of a fireplace which contained a coal fire, the minister reached over and took the tongs from beside the fireplace. He just reached in and picked out one of the live coals. He carried it over to one side and laid it down on the stone slab, outside the actual fireplace itself. That single coal, all red and fiery when it was in the **group** of burning coals, turned gray and began to cool off.

Soon it had lost its glow and its heating power. Then the minister went over with the tongs, picked up that single piece of coal which had become gray and cold and put it back in the center with the live coals. Soon it was aglow and

(Turn the Page)

began to throw off light and heat again. In that way, the minister showed this man the importance of being with other Christians.

M—A meaningful church is one where members Meet together for worship and fellowship.

Someone has said we are like the ticket stubs that read VOID IF DETACHED. If we detach ourselves from other Christians, we grow weak.

(2) E—A meaningful church Expects the supernatural.

"And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles" (Acts 2:43).

God longs to manifest His presence every time we meet together as believers. He is the God of the impossible. He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. Psalm 147:4 tells us: "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names." Do you know how many stars there are? Scientists tell us there are 46 trillion stars! That's 46 with 21 zeros! And our God tells the number of the stars. He even calls them by their names. Can you imagine naming 46 trillion stars?

What I'm trying to say, my friend, is that our God is great! He is longing to move mightily in our midst and show Himself big and strong. Every time we meet together in the name of Jesus our Lord, we should expect Him to demonstrate His power!

E—A meaningful church Expects the supernatural.

"Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God." I believe William Carey first said this. Let's remember it! Expect the supernatural!

(3) A—A meaningful church Actively disciples those being saved.

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship . . ." (Acts 2:42).

These early Christians didn't just win people to Christ; they discipled them after winning them. We need to realize that profession of faith in Christ is only the first step, and that young converts—and all of us—need much instruction in the Scriptures.

I believe an earnest desire for fuller knowledge is the basis of all healthy Christian living. Do you desire to get into the Scriptures every day? Do you hunger and thirst after the Word of God?

When you and I hunger for the Word, then we are eager to share God's principles with others. Every time we lead someone to Christ, we should immediately disciple that new convert. Whether it's a one-on-one relationship where we spend an hour or two a week with the young Christian, or in a new converts' class, we need to immediately begin discipling new converts.

Someone has said: "Discipling others is the process by which a Christian with a life worth emulating commits himself for an extended period of time to a few individuals who have been won to Christ, the purpose being to aid and guide their growth to maturity and equip them to reproduce themselves in a third spiritual generation."

A—A meaningful church is one where members Actively disciple those being saved.

(4) N—A meaningful church is concerned about the Needs of others.

"And all that believed were together, and had all things common; and sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need" (Acts 2:44, 45).

What unselfishness! What generosity! What love! This is love in action, my friend! It's one thing to talk about loving people; and quite another thing to give generously to help meet their needs.

As members of the body of Christ, when one person suffers, we all suffer.

Listen to 1 John 3:17, 18: "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need; and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

People all around us have needs—some need money, some need food, some need encouragement, some need a caring person to listen to them, some need clothes, others need food. All need love and praise. It's helpful to praise and compliment people.

Let's give roses to people while they can smell them—not after they're dead.

What have you done during the past three days to help meet someone's needs? What will you do during the next three days to show someone you care about him, that you love him or her?

N—A meaningful church is concerned about the Needs of others.

(5) I—A meaningful church Intercedes for others.

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and **in prayers**" (Acts 2:42).

I believe the power of the church is largely untapped by the church today. You may remember the story of the woman some years ago who was hit by a car and powerfully pinned to the ground. Spectators gathered and were quickly making plans to lift the car when a man stepped from the crowd and lifted the car enough

that the woman could be pulled to safety. Later, news reporters asked the man to lift the same car for pictures, but the man was not able to budge it. Apparently, he had some "uptapped" power waiting in reserve for just such an extraordinary occasion. All he had to do was to draw on that power when it was most needed.

You and I as believers in Jesus Christ have tremendous power available to us. It's the power of prayer! It's just waiting to be harnessed. We must never forget that Jesus, the Son of God, lives in us, and He has all power in Heaven and earth among us today.

We have God's power, tapped only by believing prayer. But how can we tap this apostolic power? Ravenhill says: "If we would return to apostolic practice—waiting upon the Lord for apostolic power—we could then go forth to apostolic possibilities!" Yes, the untapped power of God is only found in waiting before God in prayer.

There's tremendous power in prayer. We need to daily intercede for one another as believers. Pray for others that we may continue stedfastly in our walk with God. James 5:16 tells us to "Pray for one another." This word "pray" in this verse carries the idea of praying for one another with the same intensity with which we pray for ourselves.

And we must daily intercede for the lost. In the name of Jesus, we need to come against Satan and break his strongholds on the unsaved. He has them in his grip, and we have the authority in Jesus' name to command Satan to turn them loose for God.

I—A meaningful church Intercedes for others.

(6) N—A meaningful church is one where Numbers are added by the Lord.

". . . And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).

Paul said: "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (1 Corinthians 3:6).

We must always remember that God is the One who gives the increase. We are His tools. We are His hands, His mouth, His feet, His hands. But ultimately He does the saving. He does the keeping. May we never get to the place where we think God can't get along without us. We are but His instruments. He added to His church. It's His Church. He said: ". . . I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18).

God forbid that we should boast, that we should glory, except in Him. Let him who glories, glory in the Lord. He adds to His church. We are but His servants working for Him. All glory and praise belong to Him.

N—A meaningful church is one where Numbers are added by the Lord as a result of our faithful witnessing for Him.

(7) G—A meaningful church Goes after the unsaved.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

God has given the Holy Spirit to enable us to be His witnesses. Look at this verse carefully: "ye shall **be** witnesses unto me . . . ." The way we live from day to day at home, in our jobs, in our social contacts, reveals to the world what we really are. God wants us to **be** witnesses by our attitudes, by our speech, by our conduct.

You are writing a gospel, a chapter each day,
By deeds that you do, by words that you say,
Men read what you write whether faithless or true.
Say, what is the Gospel according to you?

What do people see in your life on a day-to-day basis?

Not only are we to **be** His witnesses, we must also actively witness for Jesus Christ. Tell others who Christ is and what He can do in their lives. But many Christians find it difficult to share faith with others. Maybe the reason is in the answer given to a man who asked: "Why is it that so few Christians can talk about what's happening to them in their faith?" The simple reply was: "Maybe it's because there is so little that's happening."

What's happening in your life? Anything worth sharing?

A meaningful church goes after the unsaved.

"The church gathers to learn; scatters to evangelize."

G—A meaningful church Goes after the unsaved.

(8) F—A meaningful church is Filled with the Holy Spirit.

Turn with me to Acts 2:1, 4: "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, . . . they were all filled with the Holy Ghost . . . ."

Ephesians 5:18 tells us: "And be not drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit." We need many infillings. Start out every morning asking the Lord for a new infilling of His Spirit.

The power of the Holy Spirit is illustrated in page after page of the New Testament. The Acts of the Apostles could be accurately called the "Acts of the Holy Spirit," for the Holy Spirit acted in and through the church and He enabled these Christians to turn their "world upside down" (Acts 17:6).

Early Christians were filled with the Holy Spirit and they were empowered by the Spirit. In

(Turn the Page)

the strength and power of the Holy Spirit many ordinary Christians did what was, humanly speaking, impossible. And all through history we read of ordinary men and women who were empowered by the Holy Spirit doing extraordinary things for God.

The Holy Spirit is our source of power today! We need to yield to His control. As we are empowered by Him, led by Him, walk in step with Him, we do not yield to the lusts of the flesh.

F—A meaningful church is Filled with the Spirit of God.

(9) **U—A meaningful church is a United church.**

A meaningful church is united in Jesus Christ. "And all that believed were together . . ." (Acts 2:44).

In writing to the Philippian believers, Paul said: "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (Philippians 1:27).

Ephesians 4:13 speaks of the "unity of the faith . . . ."

When professing Christians are characterized by bickering, arguing, jealousy, and disharmony, the unsaved world is repelled by such behavior. But the unsaved world is attracted to a group of believers who are united, who are marked by togetherness.

No football team will have a winning season this year unless every team member cooperates and does his job as a team member. No single player can win a game. It takes the united effort of every player!

And so it is in the church. We are united under the banner of Jesus Christ, and each of us must work together with others in the church and see Christ's kingdom advance.

U—A meaningful church is United together in Jesus Christ.

(10) **L—A meaningful church is one whose members Love one another.**

When you read carefully through the Book of Acts, you see that love is the motive for their praying for one another, the motive for their giving so generously to one another, the motive for their coming together to encourage one another, the motive for their going out to win others to Christ.

Do you know that God gives the world the right to judge whether or not we are truly His disciples? Indeed, He does. Look at John 13:34, 35: "A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

On the basis of our observable love to one another in the family of God, the world knows that we are Christ's disciples.

Where there's love, there is peace and joy and unity and harmony and fruitfulness and growth.

Is your life characterized by deep, sincere, observable love for others?

What have you done just in the past three days to demonstrate the reality of your love to your family members, to those with whom you work, to those in your local church?

And what will you do this week, from this moment on, to express your love to others? What will you give to someone to express your love? How much of your time and energy will you give to someone this week to manifest your love for that person?

People know you are a disciple by the love you show.

L—A meaningful church is one whose members Love one another.

Conclusion

What do you think about when someone says, "The church ought to do so and so?" Do you think about the other person and what he needs to do? You see, you should never be guilty of saying, "The church needs to do so and so," because you are the church. Say, instead, "I need to do so and so."

YOU are the church.

I am the church.

WE are the church. The church is no stronger than you and I. As we grow in the Lord, the church grows.

Do you want to be a part of a meaningful church? I submit to you that I believe a meaningful church . . .

—meets together regularly for worship and fellowship.
—expects the supernatural.
—actively disiciples those being saved.
—is concerned about the needs of others.
—intercedes for others.
—knows that numbers are added by God.
—goes after the unsaved.
—is filled with the Holy Spirit.
—is united together in Jesus Christ.
—is one whose members love one another.

You can make your church, and I can make my church, a meaningful church. Will we?



The above sermon was delivered during the Thursday morning session of the 1981 State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists by the Rev. Fred Rivenbark, assistant pastor of Sherron Acres Church, Durham.



STANCIL'S CHAPEL CHURCH GROUP GOES TO CRAGMONT



Youth from Stancil's Chapel Church

Fifty-one people gathered at Stancil's Chapel Church recently to board a bus for Cragmont. This was the fourth year a group from the church had gone to Cragmont for a weekend and everyone was excited about the trip.

In order for the Stancil's Chapel group to go to Cragmont, the YFA worked all during the year to earn money. They collected offerings at their meetings and also worked on fund-raising projects. This year they raised sufficient funds to give the Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Godwin their trip with the group.

The group would like to thank the Rev. John Williams and his wife for making the weekend an enjoyable one and also to thank the bus driver for the safe trip.

News from Stancil's Chapel Church

The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, of Stancil's Chapel Church recently resigned because of ill health. On Sunday, August 30, the YFA sponsored a fellowship supper in honor of Mr. Godwin and his wife. During the service a plaque was presented to them in love and appreciation for their eleven years of devoted service. The Godwins' fellowship is still enjoyed by the people of Stancil's Chapel Church as they remain members of the church.

Earlier in August, the Rev. Joe Ingram met with the youth group at Stancil's Chapel to explain plans for helping the hungry and needy of the world. It was decided to use the love loaf plan. All the church people were asked to help the youth in the project.

When the youth met for their meeting in October, they had a fellowship supper. After the supper the love loaves for the hungry people of the world were opened. A total of $391.21 was raised for the hungry.

Sunday School Workshop Outstanding Success



Mrs. Dianne Riley conducts workshop

A workshop for Sunday school teachers and workers was recently concluded at Core Creek Church, Cove City, North Carolina. It was sponsored by the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College and conducted by Mrs. Dianne Riley,

(Turn the Page)

associate director of admissions. The workshop was attended by fifty-five eager and enthusiastic teachers representing six area churches.

Methods of lesson presentation for each grade level of the Sunday school were discussed in detail and all aspects of the teaching ministry of the church were covered in the four weekly sessions. A social hour, provided by the host church, followed each session and provided an opportunity for the participants to get acquainted and to share insights and experiences in helping their students attain a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Scriptures.

The success of this endeavor was very much in evidence at the last session when twenty-one of those enrolled shared what they had gleaned from the four sessions, resulting in the final night running an hour over the scheduled time. Mrs. Riley was presented a Matthew Henry Commentary by those participating in the workshop, and a song written for and dedicated to her by Jack Bircher of the host church was sung by Mr. Bircher, accompanied by his wife at the piano. A lady who had taught Sunday school for over half a century was heard to remark as she left the sanctuary, "This has been a thrilling experience for me and has helped me tremendously as a teacher."

Those attending expressed appreciation to the college for providing the workshop and to Mrs. Riley for sharing her love for people, for God's Word, and for Free Will Baptists in giving so graciously of her time in conducting the study. One kind gentleman summed up the feelings of all in attendance when he very humbly and sincerely remarked, "I sure wish I could be a member of Dianne's Sunday school class; she brings the Bible to life and makes it relevant to my world." Certainly this should be the goal of every teacher who stands before a class; to bring God's Word to life and to make it relevant to her students' world.

Sunday School Banquet To Be Held

The First Annual Sunday School Banquet of the Albemarle Conference will be hosted by the Free Union Church in Pinetown, North Carolina, Friday, November 20, at 7 p.m. The evening meal will be a covered dish buffet to be followed by a current film on Sunday school development. By-laws for the newly reorganized Sunday School Convention will be presented during a brief business session. Every Sunday school in the Albemarle Conference is urged to attend. The Rev. F. Joe Griffith is president.

Nobles Bible Class Honors Pastor



The Rev. and Mrs. N. Dan Beaman

On Sunday, October 25, at 8 p.m., the members of the Nobles Bible Sunday School Class of Rose Hill Church near Winterville, sponsored a surprise birthday party in the church fellowship building honoring their pastor, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman. Guests attending included Mrs. Beaman and over one hundred friends from the congregation and community. A time of fellowship and refreshments was enjoyed by everyone.

Mr. Beaman opened gifts and cards of congratulations and extended words of thanks and appreciation to everyone.

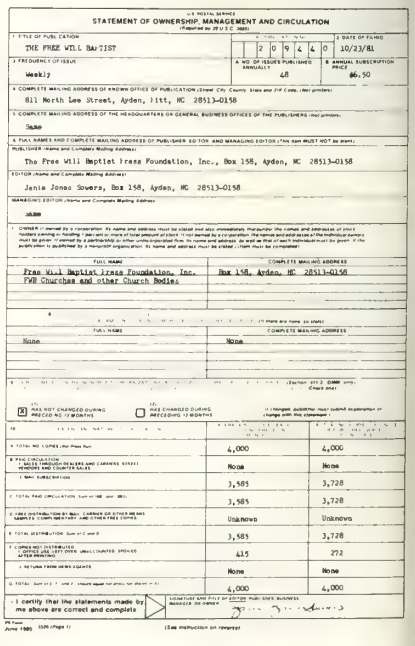
WA to Have Bazaar And Yard Sale

The Woman's Auxiliary of Rose of Sharon Church is having its Second Annual Bazaar and Yard Sale on Saturday, November 7, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., at the church fellowship building. Items for sale include Christmas items, baked goods, canned and preserved foods, decorative pieces, quilts, and yard sale items. A lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, and chicken chowder will be served. Proceeds from the bazaar will go toward the carpeting of the church sanctuary.

The church is located on rural road 1001, approximately one mile south of Bear Grass. Everyone is invited to attend.

Sunday School Teachers Week Proclaimed

November 16-22 has been proclaimed by Governor Jim Hunt as "Honor Sunday School Teachers Week." This is the 14th year that a governor has proclaimed the week in North Carolina, the first state to have such an observance.



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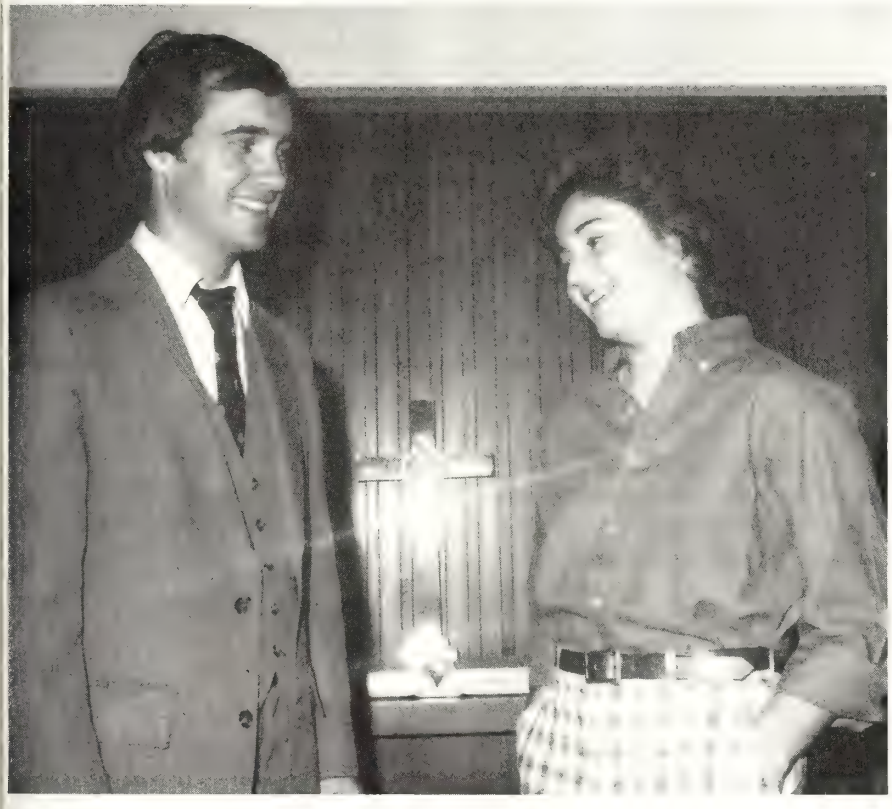
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PS Form 3526, June 1980 (Page 1) (See instruction on reverse)

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

HOWARD SCOTT ADDRESSES FACULTY AND STUDENTS



The Rev. Howard Scott talks with Vicki Cope of Kinston about her first year at college. Vicki has completed her cumulative record in child care under Scott's direction. As a state winner, she will be representing North Carolina at the National 4-H Congress in Chicago. At Mount Olive College, Vicki is a member of the New Creations, and the Baptist Student Union.

The Rev. Howard Scott of Kinston spoke to students and faculty at Mount Olive College on the subject of "What to Do with Life's Burdens." Scott was the featured speaker recently for chapel services which are held weekly in Rodgers Chapel.

Scott told his audience that even as students, they would be confronted with the problems which are a part of daily living. "People generally have problems which can be put in three categories," said Scott. "They have the burden of guilt. They worry about the future. And they worry about their responsibilities."

Scott then gave the students and faculty three ways that they could deal with daily pressures. One, they should never pity themselves. Two, they should never think that they cannot handle their responsibilities. Three, they should stop procrastinating.

Scott is an associate extension agent (4-H), with the Lenoir County Extension Service. He is an ordained Free Will Baptist minister and a member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

Scott graduated from Mount Olive in 1974 and North Carolina State University in 1976. He is a candidate for a master's degree in adult education at North Carolina State University.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Ayden Church, Pitt County, on Sunday, November 8, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college.

The pastor of Ayden Church is the Rev. David Ricks.

MISS RUDENE KENNEDY TO TEACH STUDY COURSES

Miss Rudene Kennedy will teach two eight-week Bible courses under the continuing education program of Mount Olive College.

"The Life of Christ" will be taught on Mondays, beginning November 30, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at the Free Will Baptist Bookstore in Kinston. The bookstore is on Queen Street.

Miss Kennedy will also teach a course entitled "Old Testament Survey" on Monday mornings, beginning November 30, from 9 a.m.-11 a.m., also at the Kinston store.

The tuition for each course is $20.

(Continued on Page 14)

News from the

Children's Home

CHILDREN'S HOME HAS NEW DIRECTOR



Mr. E. Howard Cayton

In a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home on October 20, 1981, Mr. E. Howard Cayton was unanimously voted to become the new Executive Director of the Children's Home. Mr. Cayton assumed his duties with the Home on November 1, 1981.

Mr. Cayton is a member of Daniels Chapel Church of Wilson County, where he serves as deacon and Sunday school teacher.

Mr. Cayton earned his A.B. degree from Atlantic Christian College and has completed graduate work in Education with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and at East Carolina University. He completed graduate work on Vocational Counseling and Guidance at the University of West Virginia, and a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Training Program at the University of Virginia Medical School.

Mr. Cayton has varied work experience, ranging from managerial positions with business concerns and operating his own business to working as a teacher, counselor, and coach. Mr. Cayton recently retired from North Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation.

The staff and children of the Home are looking forward to having Mr. Cayton and his wife on campus. Incidentally, Mrs. Cayton will be retiring this year from a teaching career.

The Board of Directors are confident that Mr. Cayton will provide the capable leadership that is needed at the Home and are looking forward to their association with him. We ask that you be much in prayer for Mr. Cayton as he begins this new and challenging position in our Lord's kingdom.

Board of Directors,
Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

News from the

Retirement Homes

SEPTEMBER RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

Total $583.72

CENTRAL	
Bethany	$ 25.00
Choice Mission	37.00
Daniels Chapel	50.00
Union Number 2	13.34
Reedy Branch	30.35
Total	$155.69
EASTERN	
Bridgeton	$ 22.00
Davis	100.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Oriental	5.00
Total	$142.00
PEE DEE	
Oak Grove	$ 66.53
Total	$ 66.53
PIEDMONT	
Advance Mission	$ 7.70
Auxiliary Convention	20.00
High Point	160.80
Total	$188.50
WESTERN	
Flood's Chapel	$ 6.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Total	$ 31.00

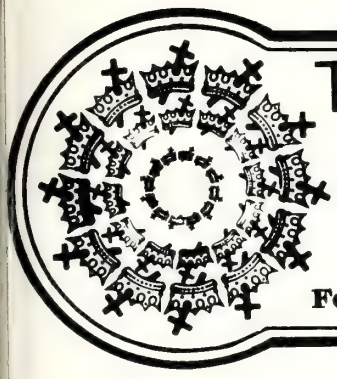
MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Ray Harrison Jr. is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services and revivals. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 103, Grifton, North Carolina 28530; phone 524-5186.

The Rev. Gurney Chase announces that he is available for pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501, phone 523-3429. He is a member of the Eastern Conference and is in good standing.

The Rev. Harry A. Jones announces that he is available for pastoral, supply, and/or evangelistic services. He may be contacted by writing him at Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526; phone 527-3262.

October is Superannuation Month.



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For November 15

A MORE EXCELLENT WAY

Lesson Text: 1 Corinthians 12:27—13:13

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 13:13

I. INTRODUCTION

First Corinthians 13 often is called "the love chapter," and that description fits it. In the *King James Version,* however, the word is *charity* instead of *love.* That puzzles some readers, for in our day the word *charity* usually means giving to the poor. But originally *charity* meant love, the unselfish, helpful kind of love that moves people to give to the poor and do other generous things. Most of the newer English versions now have *love* in 1 Corinthians 13, but that word is not so specific as *charity* used to be. There are different kinds of love. There is the sexy love that is celebrated in many popular songs. There is family love such as parents have for their children. There is the love of a friend for a friend. The Greeks had different names for these kinds of love. *Charity* represents the Greek *agape.* This kind of love is above sex or family or friendship. Among Christians it goes along with all the other kinds of love, but it is also extended to strangers and even to enemies (Matthew 5:44). That is the love or charity we read about in 1 Corinthians 13.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul discusses the spiritual gifts of those in the Body of Christ, the church. He makes two very important points. First, God has given special gifts of the Spirit and set them in the church, and the individual Christian's ministry is fulfilled through the exercise in the proper manner of the gift that God has given him. Second, every Christian is a member of the Body of Christ and has a definite ministry. Just as the organs of the physical body are controlled and coordinated by the head, so each individual is to accomplish his particular function as a part of the Body of Christ under the direction and control of the Head, who is Jesus Christ.

B. There have been many occasions when this matter of spiritual gifts has created division within the church, such as was the case at Corinth. What are the things that cause this divisive attitude regarding the gifts of the Spirit in the church? Perhaps the most prominent is a misunderstanding of what the gifts of the Spirit really are. Then there is confusion as to how they are to be used. Each Christian should remember that just as every organ of the body has a function to perform, each member of the church has a particular function to perform. When one organ in the body fails to function properly, the whole body is affected. This is just as true in the church as it is in the physical body.

C. The church might be compared, not only to a body but also to an athletic team. If each member of the team does not do his part and fill his place, the game will end in defeat. Many churches today are defeated in the work that they should be doing by the fact that some members of the team are not performing as they should. Have you ever seen a player in basketball, for example, who wanted to get all the glory and would not pass the ball as he should, but would shoot almost every time he handled the ball? Such a person was Diotrephes, who loved "to have the preeminence" in his church and refused to acknowledge the letters and authority of the apostle (3 John 9). The church can do its work only when it works like a body with each organ performing its function, and like a team with each member of the team contributing in his own way.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

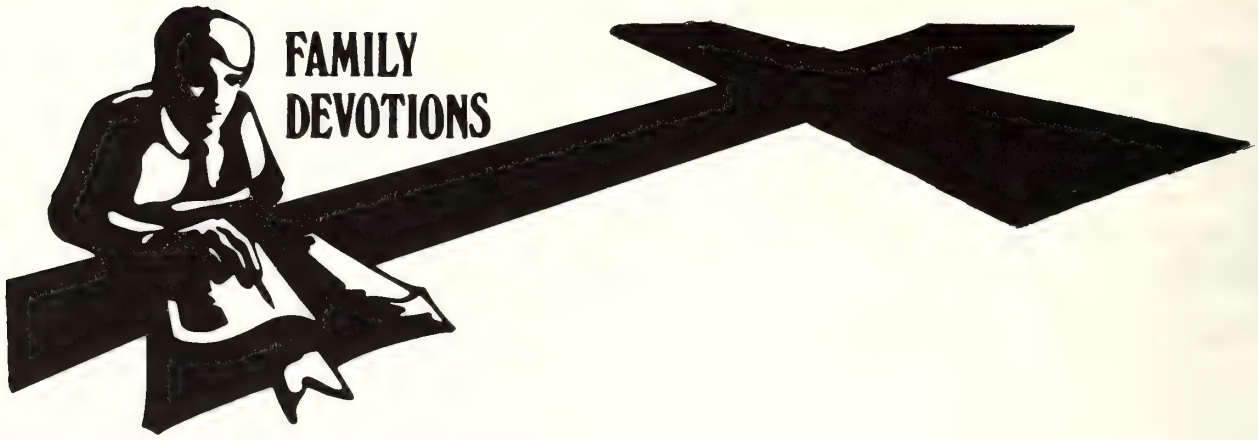
A. In our own listing of the great passages of the Bible we would most surely put in 1 Corinthians 13, referred to by many as "the love chapter" of the Bible. We are fortunate today to have this chapter as the major portion of our Bible text.

B. Actually, love is a gift of God to His children. When we learn to love God more, we truly love each other more. To put this another way, we cannot love God supremely without loving our fellowman with all our heart. We will learn today something of this great gift, as well as some other gifts of the Holy Spirit.

C. In the first portion of the lesson Paul speaks of certain gifts the Spirit gives us, and then as we enter into Chapter 13 we see that love is a "more excellent gift" than any of these.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—Psalm 127:3-5

A CRY FOR LOVE'S RETURN

"One year ago today," said a grief-stricken father, "I sat at my desk with a month's bills before me, when my bright-faced, starry-eyed boy of twelve rushed in and impetuously exclaimed, 'Daddy, today is your birthday! You are 55 years old! I am going to give you 55 kisses—one for each year!'

"Affectionately and joyously, he began to kiss me. I said, 'O, Andrew, don't do it now. I am too busy!' Silently he looked at me as his big blue eyes filled with tears. Apologetically I said, 'Son, you can finish tomorrow!' He made no reply, but was unable to conceal his disappointment. He quietly walked away.

"That same evening I said to him, 'Come and finish the kisses now, Andrew.' But he either didn't hear me, or was not in the mood. He did not respond to my invitation.

"Two months later, the waves of a nearby river closed over his body! We carried him to 'sleep' near the little village where he loved to spend his vacations. The robin's note was never sweeter than his voice, and the turtle dove that cooed to its nestlings was never so gentle as my little boy, who left unfinished his love-imposed task. If only I could tell him how much my heart is aching because of my unkind request, no man in all the world would be so inexpressibly happy as the one who sits today and thinks how he prevented an act that love inspired, and grieved a little heart that was all tenderness and affection!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God* (Mark 10:14).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 2:1-4

PRAYING TO BECOME ILL

Dr. J. W. MacGorman, a highly respected professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, said, "When I was a student at the University of Texas, Dr. D. H. Truhitte, pastor of the Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, asked me to bring the message in the 11 a.m. worship service. The closer the hour came, the more fearful I became. Looking for a quiet place where I could be alone for a while, I found only one place—the janitor's closet. Every other room, including the pastor's study, was occupied. Midst brooms, mops and other cleaning equipment I prayed, not that God's power would be felt in the service but that I would become ill. To run away would be cowardly, but to be carried away in an ambulance would save me from any stigma of shirking my responsibility."

How great is the responsibility of God's messenger! The gospel which he proclaims is "the savour of death unto death, and . . . the savour of life unto life" (2 Corinthians 2:16).

Before Charles H. Spurgeon entered his pulpit in the Spurgeon Tabernacle in London, he would agonize in prayer alone and plead, "O God, if you don't go with me and undergird me, I cannot go!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Long ago Paul asked, "And who is sufficient for these things?" (2 Corinthians 2:16). *No one, without God. Paul answered his question thus: "Our sufficiency is of God"* (2 Corinthians 3:5).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—James 5:13-20

THE POWERHOUSE OF METHODISM

Said Warren W. Wiersbe, "One of the most moving experiences of my life came when I stepped from John Wesley's bedroom in his London home into the little adjacent prayer room. Outside the house was the traffic noise of City Road, but inside that prayer chamber was the holy hush of God. Its only furnishings were a walnut table which held a Greek New Testament and a candlestick, a small stool and a chair. When he was in London, Wesley entered the room early each morning to read God's Word and pray.

"The guide in Wesley's home told me, 'This little room was the powerhouse of Methodism!' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . *The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much* (James 5:16).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:1-15

PRAYER IS PRACTICAL

Frederick Douglas, American abolitionist, prayed fervently for freedom. He said, "It did not come until I got on my feet and ran away."

William Booth counseled Salvation Army workers thus: "Pray as if everything were dependent upon God. Work as if everything were dependent upon you."

Prayer is practical. To pray prevailingly, we must be willing to put shoe leather to our prayers. Like faith, prayer and effort are inseparable.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Prayer is work: "Epaphras . . . a servant . . . always laboring fervently for you in prayers" (Colossians 4:12).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 2

MANIFEST IN DEVIOUS WAYS

Said a Hindu to a missionary, "Why are you so anxious to see God with your eyes closed? See Him with your eyes open, as you look at the poor, the starved, the illiterate, and the afflicted."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God manifests Himself to His children in diverse ways.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 2

"CALL UNTO ME . . . I WILL ANSWER" (Jeremiah 33:3).

The largest volcano, which is one of the world's most active, is in Sicily's Mount Etna. In July, 1971, it had its most violent eruption in more than two decades. As rivers of lava poured out of the mountain, the villagers of San Alfio, led by their priest, called upon the patron saints to halt the flow of lava toward their village.

As the people prayed, the priest held a small reliquary which contained tiny pieces of bones, alleged to belong to fourth century martyrs.

Sweating from the radiated heat of the lava 25 yards away, Father Parlai said, "We sinners must promise a better life as we ask the saints to destroy this monster."

What a privilege it is in times of impending disaster to go personally to God the Heavenly Father through the one Mediator, the Lord Jesus Christ: "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5).

PRAYER THOUGHT

God gives this sure promise to His children: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 10:16-39

THE SENTINEL

The morning is the gate of day;
But ere you enter there,
See that you set to guard it well,
The sentinel of prayer.

So shall God's grace your steps attend;
But nothing else pass through
Save what can give the countersign,
The Father's will for you.

When you have reached the end of the day,
Where night and sleep await,
Set there the sentinel again
To bar the evening's gate.

So shall no fear disturb your rest,
No danger and no care;
For only peace and pardon pass
The watchful guard of prayer.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering . . . (Hebrews 10:23).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Cape Colony Church (Albemarle Conference), Edenton, North Carolina, is in need of a full-time pastor. Any interested party should contact Max Moore, 482-4854; or Paul Chapman, 482-8831.



REYNOLDS HONORED

Employees of the Free Will Baptist Press surprised the Rev. Walter Reynolds, Manager, recently with a birthday party. His birthday was October 25.

Mr. Reynolds, "We . . . thank God always for you . . ." (1 Thessalonians 1:3).

HANSLEY TO ASSUME POST IN JANUARY



The Rev. David Charles Hansley will assume the post of Manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. on January 1, 1982. He is seen above signing his contract at a recent Board of Directors' meeting.

Those pictured are (from left to right, front to back): the Revs. Fred Rivenbark, Vice President; David Charles Hansley; David W. Hansley, President; James B. Hardee; C. Felton Godwin; Willis Wilson; Dewey Boling; Robert May, Secretary; and Walter Reynolds, the present manager.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

to come until one day no one showed up. The group never decided to disband, but now there are no songs, no sermons, no services. The vision became dim and then was lost altogether. The church never voted to die; she just closed her eyes, and—

If the erection of a new church building is thrilling, the desertion of that structure evokes sorrow, heartache, and a feeling of emptiness. If "rising spires," a well-maintained building, and open doors give testimony to God, a church that is closed or in disrepair gives testimony to evil, and the weakness and failure of man.

Nobody knows just how many there are. Some say there are hundreds each year. Most of us can think of at least one—some can give the name and location of several. But a dead church is always a sorrowful sight—especially when it is one of our denomination.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 9)

Books for both courses may be purchased at the first class meeting.

Miss Kennedy is a member of Cabin Church in Beulaville. She is a graduate of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Tennessee and holds a master's degree from Old Dominion College in Virginia.

Miss Kennedy has been serving as a home missionary in the mountains of Virginia.

ATTENTION CAPE FEAR WOMEN

There will be a Study Course on Monday, November 16, at 7:30 p.m., at First Church in Smithfield. The course will be based on the book *Prayers That Changed History* by R. Earl Allen. The speaker will be Mrs. Lizzie Dawson. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Shirley Sellers
Mavie Daughtry
Study Course Co-chairmen

"THE BEGINNING AND THE END"

Part Two

by Graham Faucette

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last" (Revelation 22:13).

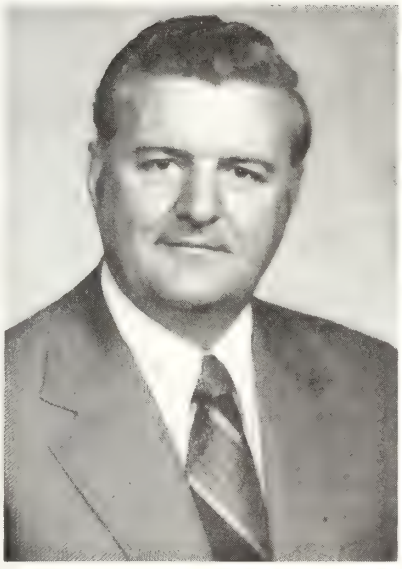
CHRIST IS THE A AND THE Z OF THE BIBLE

When a person goes to a concert and gets there early, he can hear the musicians backstage tuning their instruments. They are getting everything ready so that when the curtain rises they will be prepared.

All through the Old Testament we find that things are just tuning up for the coming of Christ. When all things were ready the curtain went up. The first act was a straw-filled manger with a Babe lying in it. The last act was a bloody Cross with its victim hanging on it. The Bethlehem star in the first act gave way to a bloody Crucifixion in the last act. Christ is the beginning and the end.

In Genesis, who was Isaac as he lay bound on the altar among the sticks? He was a type of Christ as a sacrifice, the Alpha. In Revelation, what was the water of life? It was Christ, the Omega. In Exodus, who was the smitten rock? It was Christ, the Alpha. In Revelation, who was the Lamb before the throne? It was Christ, the Omega. Christ is the Beginning and the End of the Bible.

Take Christ out of the Bible and I'd rather have a comic book to read. Take Christ out of the Bible and you have an art museum without any paintings. Take Christ out of the Bible and the world is a carcass, and eternity a vast horror. Take Christ out of the Bible and there is no hope. Christ is the A and the Z of the Bible.



A Tribute to the

REV. JOSEPH INGRAM

Upon his retirement as Director and in appreciation for his 14 years of devoted service, the Foreign Missions Board will sponsor a banquet in his honor.

NOVEMBER 20, 1981

The banquet will be held at the downtown campus of Mount Olive College, 7 p.m. A delicious meal will be enjoyed, and a fine program of tribute to Director Ingram is being planned. You are invited! Please fill in the blanks below, cut, and mail to the Foreign Missions Board Chairman, C. F. Bowen, 503 Juanita Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513, by November 13, so we will have ample time to provide a place for you.

☐ Yes, I will attend the banquet and enclose my check for $4.00 (each person), payable to Mount Olive College for the meal.

☐ I cannot attend the banquet but enclose my check or a check from my church for the purpose designated thereon. (See below).

Your name, or church's name _____

In appreciation for Director Ingram's 14 years of service, I also enclose my check for $ _____ as a personal gift to him (make check payable to him), or, in appreciation for his services I enclose a check for $ _____ as a gift to foreign missions in his honor (make check payable to Foreign Missions Board). Please indicate on your check which. If you wish, you may send a check to both Director Ingram and to missions in his honor.

(Please send this portion of the page along with all checks to C. F. Bowen, Board Chairman, 503 Juanita Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.



Christmas Is Love and many other Christmas cantatas and program books are still available at the Free Will Baptist Press and its branch bookstores. (Most books sell for less than $4 a copy.)

Order from:
The Free Will Baptist Press
Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158

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The Free Will Baptist

ESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAR

The Y Disabled Persons

Because of Kim

(and Others Like Her) . . .

We all remember people who make profound impressions upon our lives. One such individual is a young child—a little girl who adds a ray of sunlight to even my darkest day, a child whom I love dearly. Kim is energetic and a delight to be around. She loves the church and sings of her love for the Lord whenever possible. Her concern is always for others, often for her parents or "my sister Dawn." "Smart as a whip," this four-year-old has taught me many lessons. She—and others like her—have shown me that "disabled" persons are not "different"; she has helped me understand that those who have physical problems can do most of the things "normal" people do. I have learned that success does not depend on ableness or disableness! (You see, Kim has vision problems—problems that one day may be helped, but problems for which no medical cure presently exists.) My life is better because I know Kim; and it is my prayer that she will be my "teacher" for many years.

There are many stories in the Bible that deal with handicapped and/or disabled persons. In them it is often indicated that such persons were out of the mainstream of the community. They were often seen **outside** the city, **outside** the temple, seemingly **outside** of God's love. But surely we know they were not, for God is love and His love embraces all of mankind.

Without much thought, we can all think of families with a handicapped child and individuals whose aged parents live with them. Most congregations have one or more members with a special interest in these matters. Such a realization brings us to an important question: How can we create changes that will bring the disabled into the mainstream of our congregations? First, though, let us realize that there are more than architectural matters to be considered; there are a series of problems—church architecture, communication, transportation, and attitudes, just to name a few.

Churches usually present formidable architectural obstacles to those who are handicapped. It is not uncommon for church buildings to have poor toilet facilities, numerous stairs, and narrow aisles. The handicapped may have problems getting into the church and a ramp may prove to be a possible solution. Then again, if a disabled person and his family can enter the church, can they find suitable seating in the sanctuary once inside? We need to adequately facilitate those who use crutches, canes, walkers, and wheelchairs without a great deal of fuss.

Virtually no provisions are made in the normal church for disabled persons to enjoy meaningful worship; planning committees often forget those who are blind and deaf, and parents who will sit in services with a fidgety mentally retarded child. Those who are blind would surely appreciate hymnals in

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The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

The Dignity and Worth of the Human Person

by Dr. Harold H. Wilke

WE are grateful for this opportunity of sharing, out of our religious heritage, a concern that is worldwide and which requires not only the response of the secular community, but, even more particularly, the response of the religious community. I come to you as a person who is representative of that religious community. Furthermore, I come before you not as one person, but three. (We're all slightly schizoid, of course, and that reflects our human condition.) The three persons I represent are, first, that which you see immediately on meeting me, namely, the presence of a "disability."

My second is that of a man of the clergy. My third is simply as a representative of society as all of the rest of us are—a citizen, a family person, a worker, and all the rest that goes with being a part of society. All three persons are speaking today.

First, I speak as a person with a disability. My own identity, of course, comes at least in part out of the recognition that I have what is understood to be a handicap, what others perceive of as a handicap even though for me it is not to that extent at all.

Actually, we need to understand and act upon the definition that the World Health Organization (WHO) has given us: that a person with a handicap or disability must be dealt with, first of all, on the level of the impairment itself—the loss of an arm, a leg, sight—or whatever. Second, we deal with the functional loss connected with that impairment. The functional loss, according to the WHO definition, is the disability. Third, there is the additional handicap created by society, through its "architecture," by its attitude, with regard to this individual.

To take myself, for example, my impairment is a loss of arms. My disability, the functional loss connected with it, for those of you who know me, is really nothing at all since I am completely independent. The handicap which does exist for me is that ascribed to me by every person who sees me doing something in public. On the way to my office I drop the token into the subway turnstile with my toes—which I can do as fast as or faster than most persons. Obviously, this can be seen by others. A person can respond, "Ah, the poor cripple," or "Well, this chap is making it," or with some other comment that I happen to symbolize for that individual. What I'm trying to say is that we are up against three different kinds of responses and the WHO, it seems to me, properly identified the three levels: the impairment; the disability (functional loss); and the additional handicap placed by society on that individual through its "architecture," or attitude, or communication barriers, or in any other way which denies access to persons with handicaps.

My identity, then, comes in part from this kind of definition, but the identity is really that of a subsumed wholeness. Underneath is the recognition of myself as a person who is a whole man. I see myself in this way. My emphasis needs to be on this wholeness which is for all of us. When I think of this emphasis, I am reminded of a time when I served at a church in the Chicago area. Each Sunday some strangers would show up who, of course, would be unaware that the minister happened to have a disability. I am ordained in the United Church of Christ and in that heritage most ministers wear a pulpit robe, which hides the empty sleeves, and of course, I don't do anything in the pulpit which would draw attention to my particular disability. So, at the conclusion of the service, a stranger noted that the three or four persons in front of him did not shake hands with me as I greeted the congregation in the vestibule after the service. Taking his cue from them, he did not offer to shake hands either. But when he got outside, he turned to one of the members and said: "Is your minister so aloof, so stuck-up, that he wouldn't even shake hands with you?" Whereupon the church member, who had long since forgotten my disability, said: "Well, you must remember that our minister doesn't have hands and therefore, obviously, he would not be shaking hands with you." The stranger scratched his head reflectively and said, "You know, I did notice that he wasn't pounding the pulpit so much!"

Well, I'm pounding the pulpit—insisting on that wholeness which inheres within the life of all persons with disabilities, persons with the

(Turn the Page)

handicaps that all of us bear in one way or another—a wholeness, from a religious point of view, that is imputed by the Lord, a wholeness that exists for each one of us.

Whom do I represent? In a sense I represent that one-sixth of the population who are congenitally disabled, and even those that are causally related. We recognize that whether the disability is by amputation or by cerebral palsy, retardation, or any other disabilities, the causes are not really known. We recognize the enormous impact of nutritional loss on individuals during the time that the baby is in the womb. We recognize the attitudinal difficulties created by tobacco or alcohol during pregnancy or in the prenatal period. Then there is the vast number—the five-sixths—whose disability is acquired later in life. That enormous number of persons who through war or sports or industrial or home accidents or alcohol abuse, represents several hundred thousands who are injured each day. Annually, seven and a half million die in automobile accidents and, proportionately, a much much larger number of those who survive such crashes have disabilities that will last for the rest of their lives.

But the handicap of this representative individual (myself), is also a handicap of attitudinal barriers—the barriers that society puts before us and upon us and behind us—the barriers that say, "You're not a whole person, you are merely one who needs our pity or our special help. We can look down upon you as we provide this special help." I want to be accepted! I am grateful for the luck that has been mine in acceptance within the community around the world. Yet this acceptance does not exist for a great many of the 450 million persons.

The reasons for non-acceptance are many. Let us examine just one. A person with an obvious disability represents to you your own difficulties, your own anxieties, your own problems. All persons are symbols for each other. Every one of us is a symbol, every one of us has a special meaning for each other. A person with an obvious disability has a very special kind of meaning. All of us with perceived disabilities represent to you something that you don't want to be reminded of—your own mortality, your own handicaps, your own problems. We don't mean to do this, we don't intend to do this, and yet, the very presence of our disability reflects itself psychologically within the rest of society.

First, then, I speak as a person with a disability. But I want to be seen in terms of the wholeness which is my due in spite of the presence of a disability, and I want to be accepted wholly.

Second, I speak as a clergyman, one of that vast number of ordained persons in various religious organizations and groups and faiths around the world.

It is imperative that we proclaim from the deepest possible religious base the rights of humans, including the rights of the handicapped and the participation of the handicapped within the wholeness of that society. It is from the religious tradition that we hear the words: "Let justice roll down as waters and righteousness as a mighty stream."

Religion, at its highest, calls out for the wholeness of humankind. It imputes wholeness to every person and assigns dignity and worth to every individual.

Finally, I speak as a person, a family man, a citizen, an individual like anyone else. I'm a family man indeed, and I feel it now especially because my wife has been gone for three days speaking at a psychiatric conference in Massachusetts so I'm "batching it," and cooking my own meals. I'm a family man. I'm a citizen, and I'm a representative of society.

As this representative of society, I say to you who are disabled and handicapped: "We, in the wholeness of our society, need all that you can provide for us. We need your gifts and your abilities; we need your special insights; we need all of your strengths. With so many persons being maimed, impaired, and crippled in various ways in our society, with so much pollution in our atmosphere, with war constantly as a noxious, evil, terrible, awesome possibility before us, all of us need to be doing everything we can for peace. The preventive aspect of rehabilitation is of critical importance. We need what you as persons with handicaps can provide the rest of us in society. We need your special gifts. I'd like to note just one or two of these. We need that special gift that you can provide us of perseverance, of sticking with something until that problem is overcome. We need the coping abilities that you can provide us, the opportunity of doing things with what you've got instead of waiting for something to come along. We need your abilities to use everything you've got. Above all, we need your special gifts!"

Let me be personal. At our suburban home this morning, I took care of some household chores, and then I got dressed. I dress myself by using a different procedure from that of most of you. For you, a coat is something you put on and then button; for me, looking at it with a third eye method, a coat is something I button and then put on. Here is what I did this morning. I reached up with my old football kick into the closet, pulled down the coat, laid it

face up on the bed, buttoned it with my toes, and then turned it over. Face down, I ducked into it as you would duck into a pullover sweater, shook it down over my shoulders, and I came out looking like this. By the same token, for you a tie is something that you put around your neck and then tie. For me, I tie it first loosely, slip it on under the collar of my shirt, stand up in front of the mirror, secure the shirt and then pull the tie tight—and it looks right! The point here is that in the coping—the third eye methods—there are various new ways of utilizing resources which are open to us. We in society need what you who are handicapped can provide for us. These insights, these special abilities, these strengths are present in all of us. We just need to claim them for ourselves.

On the plane returning from Geneva not too long ago, I was reading a magazine. I hold it differently from the way you do. The stewardess came by and noticed the watch that I wear was on my ankle! Surprised, she said, "Well! Wearing your watch on your ankle!" I responded, "Latest style! Right out of New York!" She smiled and went her way. Five minutes later, she came back with confusion in her voice and said, "I'm terribly sorry, sir, I didn't mean to embarrass you; I noticed only the watch and didn't recognize that you were handicapped. I hope I didn't say anything to embarrass you." Well, as those of us who are "disabled" have long since come to recognize, that's no problem and I said, "No, you didn't." But it got me to thinking about this watch. What makes a wristwatch into an anklewatch? It is merely the addition of an extra 2, 3, or 4 inks to the band. And that is what we are about in this Year of 1981, and more particularly,

(Continued on Page 14)

"TEN COMMANDMENTS" FOR OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH PERSONS WITH HANDICAPS

by Dr. Harold H. Wilke

I. I am God, Your Creator: I have brought you out of bondage. Liberation is a sign of the life I give you.

II. Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it Holy; you shall be wholly before Me—the entire congregation, excluding no one because of disability or handicap. I am God, to whom *ALL* shall have access: You may place no barriers before Me.

III. I name you My children: Therefore, let no one else define My sons and daughters. Call no one "crippled" or "disabled." They are persons: Persons *WITH* disabilities—individuals *WITH* handicaps.

IV. Fear not one another: I know the confusion of your embarrassment—your fears—your anxieties. Your brother's handicap—your sister's disability confronts you: You, too, are vulnerable. You are both in My care. You are one in My sight.

V. Know that I your God have placed good in all of you: you shall not look down upon or patronize the person with a handicap. Recognize that the vast areas of personhood shared in common are far greater than the few differences that disability creates between those you call handicapped and the rest of you.

VI. Your cup runs over with the fullness of life I give you. In your human way you define that abundant life to include education, employment, a place to live, transportation, meaningful activity, cultural expression, and civic responsibility. From these opportunities you may not exclude those you call disabled. Your rights are their rights.

VII. I place within you, varied gifts, abilities, strengths. Do not forget these same abilities, insights and knowledge are in those you call handicapped, crying out for expression.

VIII. Be grateful for the inspiring quality of life within persons with handicaps, which in turn engender within all of you perseverance, humor, coping abilities, patience, and creative victory.

IX. Recognize in that commonality you all share there is also frustration, anger, anxiety and despair, reminding you all of your common frailty and your common need for salvation, and calling you to mission, to provide succor and justice for all.

X. Give ear to My eternal promise, set forth in Scripture, that underneath are the everlasting arms: Hold fast to My assurance to all humankind, that goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life, and you will dwell in My house forever.
Amen.

The Rev. F. Joe Griffith

St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, honors its pastor, the Rev. F. Joe Griffith, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A Devout Man of God

submitted by St. Paul Woman's Auxiliary



The Rev. and Mrs. F. Joe Griffith

St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, is privileged to have as its pastor the Rev. F. Joe Griffith. He and his wife, Rae, are natives of Boone, West Virginia. He began his pastoral work with St. Paul on January 1, 1979.

He is a graduate of West Virginia State College and is enrolled at Toledo Bible College and Seminary. He has served as a teacher in the public school system.

Rae, his wife, is employed with a law firm in Elizabeth City. She serves as the church pianist, Primary Sunday School teacher, and one of the youth leaders. She is a wonderful asset to St. Paul, and everyone greatly appreciates her.

Mr. Griffith not only pastors the church, but he directs the adult choir, sings solos, and is also a gifted piano player. He teaches the Young Adults' Sunday School Class. He has worked very steadfastly since he has been our pastor at St. Paul. The church has grown in spirit and number. The fellowship one with another is rich with God's love.

Since he has been at St. Paul, we have completed a fellowship hall. All the work was done by members of the church, and Mr. Griffith worked side by side with these men, helping to finish the building. A carpet, stove, refrigerator, and other items to furnish the fellowship hall have been purchased. We give our Lord the praise for this.

A monthly newspaper is being published, entitled "Joyful Noise."

The Lord has blessed the church financially since Mr. Griffith has been the pastor. He has organized a children's church with an average of twenty young people. Work has been done on the classrooms and the outside of the church. Plans are now being made for a new heating and air-conditioning unit for the church, and for landscaping of the church lawn. Several improvements have been made to the parsonage and yard.

Most important of all, Mr. Griffith is a devout man of God. He preaches from the Word of God, and his sermons are powerful and sincere. Many souls have been saved and Christians have rededicated their lives to the Lord.

Mr. Griffith visits the sick, shut-ins, and new people in the community.

He and his wife are very dear to all of us at St. Paul and everyone loves them and they return that love.

We at St. Paul thank the Lord for sending these two people our way. We pray that God will bless them and our church in the future as we work together for our Lord.

COMING EVENTS

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 17—Children's Home Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 17—Retirement Homes Board of Directors Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 21—Thanksgiving Services, 10:30 a.m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex; the Rev. Craig Simmons of First Church, Wilson, will be the guest speaker

November 26—Thanksgiving Day

November 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 29—Mount Olive College Day in local churches

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*



Whaley's Chapel Church to Have Bazaar and Dinner

Whaley's Chapel Church near Richlands will hold its annual craft bazaar and dinner on Saturday, November 14, 1981. The bazaar will open at 10 a.m., and will include handmade items for the kitchen and bathroom, Christmas ornaments, wreaths, and toys. Dinner, which begins at 11 a.m., will be a choice of fried chicken or barbecued pork. There will also be a bakery corner. A drawing for a handmade quilt will be held at 5 p.m. All proceeds from the bazaar and dinner will go to the remodeling of the church kitchen.

Tee's Chapel Church to Have Barbecue

Tee's Chapel Church near Smithfield will be having a barbecue dinner on November 14. Pork and chicken plates will be on sale from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. For convenience, there will be a pickup station at the A & P Store in Smithfield.

A special program will be featured from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m., at the fellowship hall. Proceeds will go toward a new fellowship hall. The pastor of the church is the Rev. T. C. Farmer.

Homecoming Enjoyed at Robert's Grove Church

On Sunday, October 4, 1981, Robert's Grove Church near Dunn, North Carolina, enjoyed a wonderful homecoming day. The day began as usual with 110 registering for Sunday school.

During the eleven o'clock worship service, a very spiritual atmosphere was felt. Mrs. Ruth Allen used "The Vine and Branch," taken from John 15, for her children's message. Mrs. Carolyn Tew was in charge of the memorial service and did a splendid job. During the musical meditation, the Honeycutt Trio sang the song entitled, "The Haven of Rest." Then came the highlight of the service when the pastor, the Rev. Jerry Allen, delivered the homecoming message entitled "The True Church," based on Scriptures in Matthew 24:21, 22, and Luke 17:34-36. The Spirit of the Lord could be felt as he so reverently broke the bread of life to a waiting congregation. After the invitational hymn, everyone was given a chance to bring their tithes and offerings and place them at the altar.

Lunch was spread on tables outside and an hour of fellowship was enjoyed by everyone attending.

The afternoon service was filled with singing by the home choirs, the Honeycutt Trio, Pamela Wood, and Susan Faircloth. The homecoming offering was almost $6,000.

Ordination Service at Robert's Grove Church

Sunday night, September 20, 1981, a very spiritual ordination service for two deacons was held at Robert's Grove Church, near Dunn, North Carolina. The service was to ordain Mr. Bobby Tew and Mr. Bobby Johnson, who had been selected by the church to fill the vacancies on the deacon board caused by the deaths of Mr. Henry Lee and Mr. J. T. Faircloth. The pastor, the Rev. Jerry Allen, asked the other deacons to meet him at the altar for the ordination prayer. He then read to them the duties and obligations of a deacon. He also challenged the wives concerning their duties as the wife of a deacon.

At the close of the service, all the deacons and their wives stood with the pastor in the vestibule to shake hands with the congregation. A very large crowd attended the service.

Central District To Meet

The Central District Youth Fellowship will meet on November 21, 1981, at 7:30 p.m., at Daniels Chapel Church in Wilson. The Rev. Joe Ingram, director of Foreign Missions, will present the program. He will show a film entitled, "Let It Growl," to encourage participation in the "famine" to raise money for missions.

Directions to Daniels Chapel Church are: from Greenville take Highway 264 to Highway 301; turn left on Highway 301 and go to the first stoplight, then take a left. At the end of the road, turn left. Daniels Chapel is about one-half mile on the right. A Cherubs mini-fellowship will also be held. All youth groups are invited to attend.

Sunday School Teachers Week Proclaimed

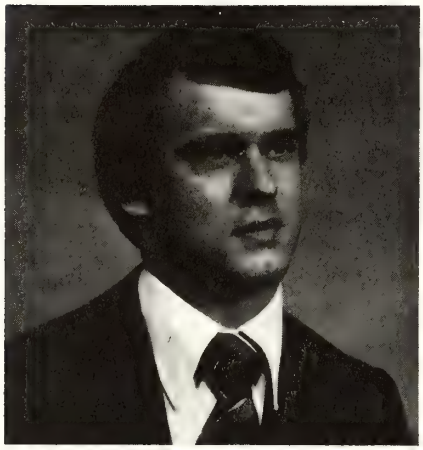
November 16-22 has been proclaimed by Governor Jim Hunt as "Honor Sunday School Teachers Week." This is the 14th year that a governor has proclaimed the week in North Carolina, the first state to have such an observance.

Churches who would like to honor Sunday school teachers

(Turn the Page)

and workers can get free certificates for the occasion from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Ayden. They are also available from Mr. Burr Patchell. His address is 3920 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610.

Youth Revival Scheduled For Johnston Union Church



The Rev. Donald Coates

The Johnston Union Church, located 3 miles west of Smithfield on Highway 70, will be holding a weekend youth revival, November 12 through November 14, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Donald Coates, pastor of Pine Level Church.

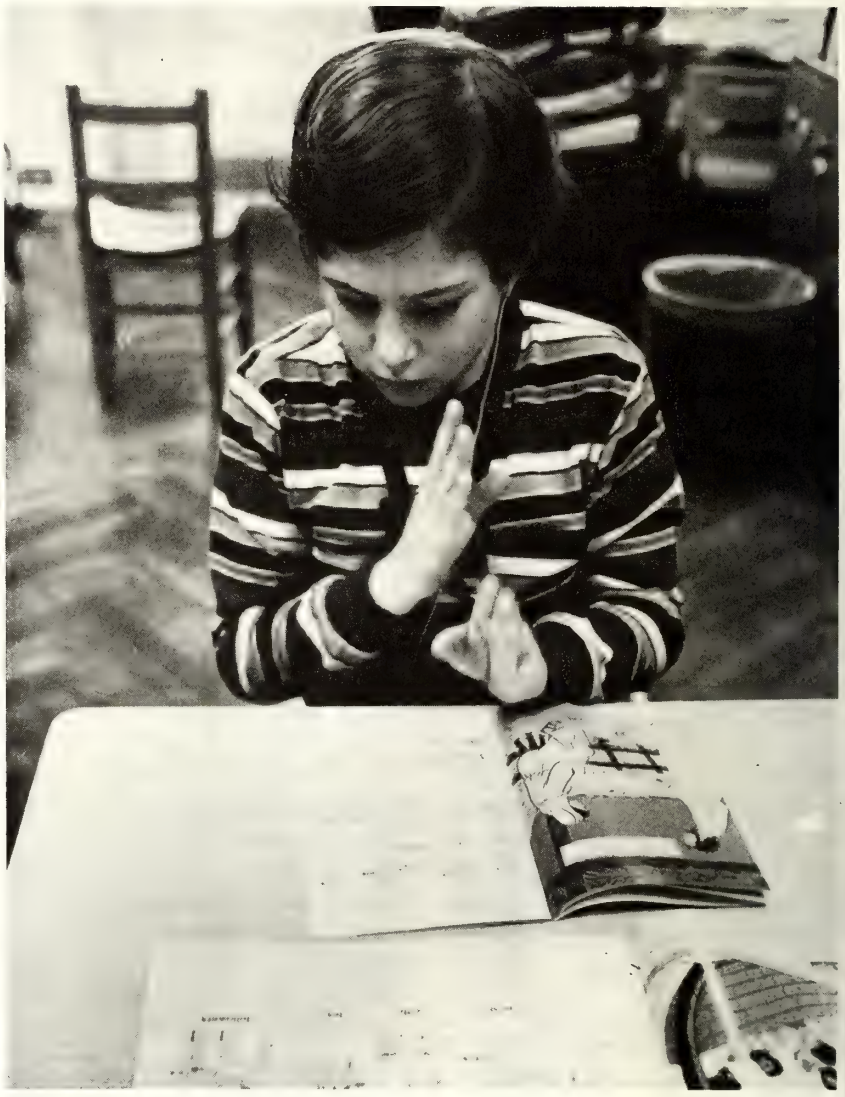
Special music will be rendered each night by the church youth choirs and by the evangelist. A great time in the Lord is expected.

The following Sunday, November 15, will be youth Sunday, with the youth taking charge of the morning worship service.

Revival Services to Be Held at White Oak Church

White Oak Church near Maysville will hold revival services November 16 through November 20. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Mickey Whitfield of Mount Olive College will be the speaker. The church congregation and the pastor, the Rev. Frank Williams Jr., invite everyone to come to these services.

The Year of the Disabled



Earlier this year, President Reagan signed a proclamation certifying United States participation in the 1981 celebration of the International Year of Disabled Persons. During the moving service held at the Oval Office of the White House, the President said, "Today there are 35 million disabled Americans who represent one of our most underutilized national resources. Their will, their spirit, and their hearts are not impaired, despite their limitations. All of us stand to gain when those who are disabled share in American opportunities."

In this photo a hearing-impaired boy focuses on the story of the birth of Jesus in Signed English. Signed English is a pictorial presentation of the narrator highlighting the signs and providing oral cues through facial expressions.

In keeping with its tradition since 1834 to supply the Holy Scriptures to the blind and visually handicapped, the American Bible Society last year distributed more than 3,950 Braille Bibles to visually-impaired people throughout the United States. Cassettes and records accounted for more than 176,750 in sales, and large print Bibles and New Testaments were distributed to more than 77,000 people.

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

WAYNE COUNTY CHURCHES RAISE OVER $17,000



Dr. Burkette Raper presents scholarships to Borden Howell, Spring Hill Church; and Gordon Mozingo, Stoney Creek Church. Miss Louise Edgerton was dinner chairman.

Free Will Baptist Churches of Wayne County raised $17,388.79 at their annual gift support dinner for Mount Olive College held Tuesday, October 27. This figure was $1,032 more than was given last year.

Fifteen churches participated in the dinner with 275 people in attendance. Mrs. Louise Edgerton of Union Grove Church near Fremont presided over the program which included the Mount Olive Singers, a musical group from the College, and a report on plans to develop Mount Olive into a four-year institution.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, explained that the gift support provided by the dinners will assist in the transition of Mount Olive College to senior college status.

The "Bridge to the Future" program approved by the board of trustees calls for the addition of the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. Under this timetable, students who enter in 1982 will be in the first baccalaureate class of 1986.

Three $100 scholarships were presented at the annual fund raising event. Spring Hill Church near Goldsboro received the scholarship given to the church bringing in the largest contribution. Spring Hill also was awarded the scholarship given to the church contributing the greatest amount of money per capita; and Stoney Creek Church near Patetown received the award presented to the church with the most high school students present.

Mrs. Jean Ackiss coordinates the seventeen annual dinners. Since the dinners were begun in 1963, they have been the source of more than $1,329,642 in gifts to the College.

TWO NEW TRUSTEES ELECTED

Two new members have been elected to the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees. The new trustees are Roy Clayton Everett of Charlotte and Fred Lant Pait of Bladenboro.



Roy Clayton Everett

Everett is executive vice president of First Federal Savings & Loan Association of Charlotte and a member of Heritage Mission.

As a church member, Everett serves the mission in many capacities: treasurer, trustee, and moderator of business meetings. He has also taught Sunday school.

Everett is also active in community affairs as a member of the Charlotte Central Lions Club. Since 1974, Everett has served the organization as

(Turn the Page)

treasurer and as a member of the board of directors. He has also worked as a volunteer for the United Appeal Campaign.

Everett and his wife, the former Peggy Whitehurst of Bethel, have two daughters: Linda, a freshman at North Carolina State University, and Sharon, a ninth grader.



Fred Lant Pait

Fred Lant Pait of Bladenboro will also assume the office of trustee for Mount Olive College. Pait is owner of Pait's Forest Products of Lumberton and has farming, timber, and cattle interests. He is an active member of the Lumberton Chamber of Commerce.

Pait is a member of Oak Grove Church where he serves as a deacon, treasurer of Pee Dee Union Number One, and trustee. He has also taught Sunday school and served on the church building committee.

Pait and his wife Stella have four children, thirteen grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Their children are Harold J., David L., and Clifton M. Pait of Bladenboro; and Pauline P. Taylor of Lumberton.

Both Pait and Everett will officially assume their duties as trustees on December 1, but they will attend the November 24 meeting of the board of incoming members.

(Continued on Page 14)

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Treasurer's Report

End of Second Quarter, October 31, 1981

Balance in Bank, July 31, 1981			$ 4,111.13
Receipts			
General Fund			
Contributions	123.47		
Life Award Fees	50.00		
Promotional Fund (CSF)	52.28		
Reimbursement of Camp Funds	53.27	279.02	
Denominational Enterprises		18,826.56	
Total Receipts			19,105.58
Total for Which to Account			23,216.71
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		203.77	
Denominational Enterprises		18,826.56	
Total Disbursed			19,030.33
Balance in Bank, October 31, 1981			$ 4,186.38
Banks			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)		$ 1,186.38	
Church Finance Association		3,000.00	
Total		$ 4,186.38	

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemized	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		$ 1,635.20	$ 1,635.20
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	2,331.49		
Mexico	225.00		
India	60.00		
Fred Baker	50.93		
The Barnards	93.20		
State Project (Missionary wives)	1,057.97	3,818.59	3,818.59
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	135.84		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	34.50		
J. C. and Bertha Griffin Scholarship	25.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund	226.00		
Books	40.00		
Peter Tingem (Foreign Student expense)	786.30		
State Project (Chapel Parking Lot)	782.75	2,030.39	2,030.39
Free Will Baptist Children's Home:			
General Fund	299.68		
Clothing	450.00		
Child Support	180.00		
Sheets	20.00		
Corelleware	8.00		
State Project (Media Center)	559.97	1,517.65	1,517.65

(Continued on Page 14)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For November 22

ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT

Lesson Text: Ephesians 4:1-16
Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:32

I. INTRODUCTION

After starting a church in one place and moving on to the next, Paul liked to go back and give additional counsel and teaching. It was a long time before he could get back to Ephesus, however. For two years he was a prisoner in Caesarea, and then he was shipped to Rome, still a prisoner. From Rome he wrote his letter to the Ephesians, perhaps about five years after he left that busy city.

Since most of the Ephesians had been heathen before becoming Christians, Paul reminded them that God had made them "fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19). He prayed that they would be "strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man" (3:16). But to live as Christians in the midst of people who were devoted to profit and pleasure, the Ephesians would have to use their own efforts as well as the strength that would come from God. The first three verses of Ephesians 4 tell some of the essential features of Christian living.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

Many years ago while listening to Dr. Charles Fuller on the "Old Fashioned Revival Hour," I heard him give an outline of the Epistle to the Ephesians. He called it a book about the church, with each chapter giving a different picture. Chapter 4, he said, describes the church's walk. His classification, like that of other Bible scholars, indicates that Paul followed much the same principle in each of his epistles—the first half doctrinal; the second, practical. Certainly Chapter 4, which begins the second half of this book, is practical. In this approach, Paul seems to be teaching us that sound doctrine and practical Christian living go hand in hand. They are both important.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONALS TRUTHS

A. Any selected portion of Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus should be considered one of the great passages of the Bible. Ephesians is the New Testament counterpart of the Old Testament Book of Joshua. As Joshua led the Israelites into the great experience of surrendered living in Canaan, so Paul leads us into the marvelous adventure with Jesus in the land of dedicated living in Christ. With the possible exception of Romans, Ephesians is probably the greatest letter written by the apostle.

B. The book of six chapters is divided at the center. The first three chapters deal with the great doctrines of the church, while the last three put these teachings into practice. Thus the first part is doctrinal, the second, practical. Our Bible text for today's lesson is taken from the practical half of the book.

C. As a part of the one body in Christ and baptized by the one Spirit into Christ, Christians are called to live a worthy life, to become a unity with God, to equip ourselves for service and growth, to mature in Christian faith, and to be filled with the Holy Spirit. These and other challenges will confront the student as the lesson unfolds and understanding deepens.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Oldest Baby in the World—There used to be a girl called "the oldest baby in the world." She was born into a Philadelphia home. Everything was fine until she reached the age of seven or eight months, when all development was suddenly arrested. She never walked, she never talked. Even though she lived to a ripe old age, she never got past the "baby food" stage. It was pathetic. It is also pathetic to see a Christian who does not grow.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Nov. Special

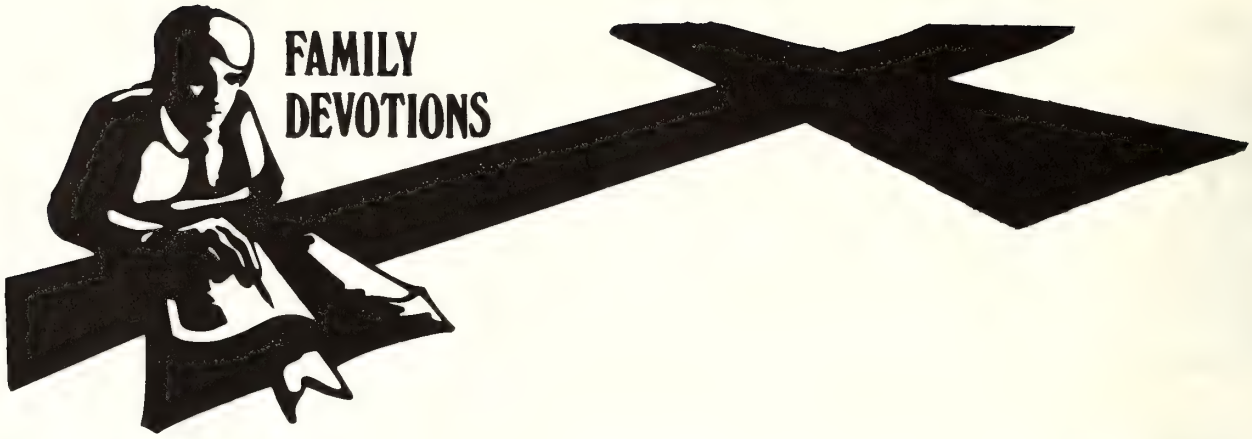
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 9:2, 6-8; 40:9-11; 52:7-10; 60:1-5; 61:1, 2

MUTED

"Great Paul," a mammoth seventeen-ton bell in one of the towers of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, was silent for seven years because of manpower shortage. But in May, 1971, England's largest bell, with its 1,350-pound clapper, returned to life. It is now rocked by two powerful motors. On a still summer evening, it can be heard seven miles away. Twice daily the sound of Great Paul rises above the din of traffic with a resonant E flat.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The centuries-old Gospel bell has been silent too long in some churches. The good news that "Christ died for our sins . . . was buried, and . . . rose again the third day" (1 Corinthians 15:3, 4), *has been muted, with resultant moral and spiritual decay and confusion.*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 5:1-33

WANTED: MORE LIGHT

"Pray for me, pastor, that I'll get more light," requested a man who had fallen into sinful worldly ways.

The pastor replied, "No, I'll not pray for more light for you, but I will pray that you will walk in the light which God has already given to you."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Most of us know better than we do. It is better not to know than to know and not do: "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them" (2 Peter 2:21).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—John 1:1-9

FOG-ENSHROUDED SOULS

For centuries Londoners have cursed and boasted about their famous fog. Charles Dickens wrote about the leaden skies filled with black soot that resembled "snowflakes gone into mourning for the death of the sun!"

Years later T. S. Elliot spoke of "the yellow fog that rubs its back upon the windowpanes."

The peasoupers shrouded the malevolent doings of London villains from Jack the Ripper to Mr. Hyde.

Because of a recent enactment of Parliament, prohibiting the burning of soft coal, the suffocating, smoke-laden, brown or yellow stuff that formerly enshrouded the city with discomforting regularity and sometimes with lethal results, has all but vanished. About eighty percent of London is actually free from fog.

Sin-shackled, fog-enshrouded souls grope in the miasmic lowlands of hopelessness and, enervating dread, their "hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth" (Luke 21:26).

God's trustful, obedient children bask in the glow and warmth of the ever-present "Sun of righteousness" and the "Light of the world" (see Malachi 4:2a; John 8:12).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Long ago two disciples exclaimed, "Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures?" (Luke 24:32).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—John 17:11-26

INDOLENT ALL WEEK

Dr. Warren R. Guild of the Harvard Medical School, and President of the American College of Sports Medicine warned, "If you are soft and indolent all week, a massive weekend effort is foolhardy."

It is spiritually hazardous for God's children to exercise their souls and partake of spiritual food only on weekends. To maintain spiritual health and grow in grace they must daily commune with God and partake of "the sincere milk of the word" (1 Peter 2:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 3:10-17

A SHABBY SEXTON OF SPLENDID TOMBS

Dr. Robert G. Lee said of the imperishable Scriptures: "The Bible is the Word of God; harmonious in infinite complexity; divine in authorship; human in penmanship; infallible in authority; universal in interest; eternal in duration; regenerative in power; immeasurable in influence; the miracle Book of diversity in unity! It is an oasis in a desert of despair!

"Though Nineveh with her pride is now a dirty doormat for irreverent feet, the Book lives on! Though Greece with her culture and art is now a crumb in history's rubbish, the Book lives! Though Egypt is now a shabby sexton of splendid tombs, the Book lives!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away (Luke 21:33).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 10:22; Luke 16:10-12; 1 Corinthians 4:2; Revelation 2:10

HOW HE GOT HIS NAME

During a fierce battle with the Union Army, the tide of battle was going against the Confederates. Many of them were retreating.

There was one who refused to turn his back to the enemy—General Thomas Jonathan Jackson. Observing the fearless general, a soldier exclaimed, "There stands Jackson like a stonewall!" Thereafter the intrepid general was called "Stonewall" Jackson.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's command to his battle-weary children today is, "Watch you, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong" (1 Corinthians 16:13).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 1:1-6

"YOU'RE MAD"

A man told Dwight L. Moody, "You're mad!"

Moody replied, "Well, if I am mad, I have a good Keeper on the road: 'He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day' (2 Timothy 1:12b), and a good asylum at the end of the trip: 'For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens' (2 Corinthians 5:1)."

PRAYER THOUGHT

He that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about (Psalm 32:10).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Burns Resigns Pastorate

The Rev. W. S. Burns recently resigned his pastorate at Elm Grove Church, Route 3, Ayden. He will complete his work there on January 31, 1982.

Mark Your Calendar . . .

Autograph Party

Saturday, November 28

(Tentative Date)



Joyce Proctor Beaman, the author of several books, will be at the Wilson Bible and Bookstore, 1101 Downing Street (Five Points), Wilson, with her latest release, *You Are Beautiful: You Really Are.*

Watch for more details in next week's issue; and make plans **now** to attend.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 5)

this is what we are now about as we deal with all of the varied gifts and supports that are provided in our religious community.

Remember, then, the links in the band of your watch. They symbolize that sin and disability are only sometimes causally related. Remember the link that reminds us of the imputation of wholeness. It is there for us all. Remember the link that says society needs what persons with handicaps can provide. Remember all of these links. Wear your watch—symbolically—on your ankle, remembering that we are part and parcel of a great tradition and in that tradition our gifts for society are to be provided.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

The board of trustees is the governing body of Mount Olive College, composed of not more than thirty members, each elected for a term of six years, with the terms of five members expiring each year. Membership on the board is by election of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Friendship Church, Greene County, on Sunday, November 15, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college.

The pastor of Friendship Church is the Rev. Walter Reynolds.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from Page 10)

Superannuation		158.48	158.48
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.		8,262.31	8,262.31
Retirement Homes		643.47	643.47
Life Membership Fees (Cragmont)		125.00	125.00
Central Conference Missions		165.00	165.00
*Christian Service Fund:			
Mount Olive College	104.55		
Missions	104.55		
Children's Home	78.41		
Cragmont	78.41		
Retirement Homes	52.28		
Superannuation	52.27	470.47	470.47
Totals		$18,826.56	$18,826.56

*10 percent retained for promotional, (see receipts $52.28)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, *Treasurer*

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Braille or large print. (The Southern Baptists publish their entire hymnal in a dozen volumes of Braille.) Those who are deaf may be good lip-readers. If so, they should sit at the front of the sanctuary, for they need a clear view of the speaker's face. A good portion of the service can be typed out if no one in a given congregation can use sign language. Large print Bibles for the visually impaired would also be beneficial. Providing such aids say a hearty "Welcome!" to those who are disabled.

Transportation is often the biggest single obstacle the disabled face in regards to active church participation. Individual members and organizations within a church can provide assistance with this. A church-owned vehicle could be used to make regular pick ups.

Perhaps the hardest of all problems to solve is the one that deals with our attitudes. Let's face it, Christian or not, most people are simply not naturally comfortable in the presence of handicapped individuals. With this in mind, may the following be our prayer:

"Lord, we have handicapped people by our pity. We have stared at those who do not look like us, or refused to meet the eyes of those who are different. We have given up talking to those who do not hear the way we hear, or see the way we see.

"Help us to see more than the outside of people and to meet in the sharing of feelings and stories. Help us to see the many different perspectives and levels and forms of living, being, and moving, the ways of tapping new depths and dreams.

"Deliver us, oh, Lord, from our lack of creativity and insensitivity! Help us know ourselves and our own handicaps. We are neither a 'whole' nor 'holy' people.

"Teach us, God, to see the growing population of those oppressed because of physical disabilities and physical barriers our culture builds. Teach us how to tear down the emotional barriers put up by us as individuals.

"Thank you, God, for those who have reclaimed a new kind of power by going through suffering, for those who truly understand the gift of Christ's broken body, and therefore His Resurrection.

"May we never shut away the gifts of personhood, no matter where people are in their journey, but instead join together in the one body that is Your Church!"

November Is

CHILDREN'S

HOME MONTH



Mr. E. Howard Cayton assumed the position of Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on November 1, 1981. The Revs. James B. Hardee, Chairman of the Children's Home Board (center), and Walter Sutton, a member of the Board (right), greeted him on his first day at work, Monday, November 2.

November 21st Thanksgiving Services at the Children's Home

The Rev. Craig Simmons of First Church of Wilson will be the guest speaker.

Services begin at 10:30 a.m. * Picnic Lunch at Noon

Open House in the Afternoon



Wondering What to Give Mom?

Give a gift from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation or one of its branch bookstores!

Our five bookstores have many items that are sure to please even the most discriminating mother. Need some ideas? Here goes—Bibles (of all sizes, colors, and descriptions), subscriptions to *The Free Will Baptist* (one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20; prices include sales tax for North Carolina residents), devotional and inspirational books, cookbooks, stationery, cards, pictures, plaques, music, records, tapes, candles, calendars, ceramics . . . and the list goes on and on.

Visit one of our bookstores and enjoy a pleasant Christmas shopping experience.

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"History maketh a man old, without either wrinkles or gray hair, privileging him with the experiences of age, without either the infirmities or inconveniences thereof."
—Thomas Fuller

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Where Are the Great Men?

As I look around today, I wonder just how long Martin Luther would have been able to maintain his calm amid our twentieth century Christianity. Remember, it was Luther who once had a run-in with Tetzel, a Dominican monk. Tetzel (like so many others of his day) made it his practice to promise spiritual blessings, otherwise known as indulgences, to those who gave generously to the restoration of St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome.

Aghast at the notion that God's grace could be bought (or sold), Luther thundered, "I will put a hole in Tetzel's drum!" And he did. Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the church door at Wittenburg. His action was enough to start the Reformation.

If Martin Luther lived today, I wonder how he would respond when he received his first computer letter from some evangelist. Ever so plentiful today, such appeals all seem to follow the same vein—replete with prayer cloths and/or towers, and promises of spiritual rewards and blessings. "Not since Vatican officials sold papal indulgences—written protection from the wages of sin—has there been such a public marketing of Christian favors."—*Prime Time Preachers*

Of course if Luther returned to nail a few more theses on some church door, we also need other great men of the faith to come back and rouse us to reach those otherwise unchurched. (Some people do refer to television ministries and the like as being **their** church). A Gallup poll taken recently classified forty-one percent of all American adults as being unchurched. Of that number, thirty percent had listened to a religious radio or television program during the previous month. Well, brothers and sisters, that's nearly twenty million people that today's organized church is not reaching!

Maybe we need Solomon Stoddard, Jonathan Edwards, John Wesley, Whitefield, the Tennants, and others who were so influential during the Great Awakening. These men looked upon "all the world" as their parish; they felt it their "bounden duty to declare unto all that are willing to hear the glad tidings of salvation." Why, each rode over a quarter of a million miles on horseback to proclaim his message, a "message so extraordinary and wonderful" it was seen as "the dawning or at least a prelude of that glorious work of God spoken of in the Scriptures." Their message, their faith and hope led to the eager expectation of all things being made new. Their evangelistic fervor exerted a decisive and far-reaching influence upon the development of American religious life. Men's consciences were touched; their faith was awakened; and people were brought into the church in unusual numbers.

In American cities today are unreached masses like those ministered to by the great evangelists and preachers of yesterday. Like the churchmen of years gone by we prefer not to notice. We seem satisfied when our worship is comfortable and our fellowship is serene. Doesn't all of this make you

(Continued on Page 14)

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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BEAUTY FOR ASHES

W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

NOVEMBER, 1981, marks the fiftieth anniversary of "the greatest and most distinct loss that our people have sustained in our history." These are the words used by the late C. K. Dunn, manager of the Free Will Baptist Press, to describe the burning of Eureka College in the predawn fire of November 5, 1931.

The sacrifices of a faithful people lay in ashes. The only educational institution of Original Free Will Baptists was no more. And a great depression gripped the Nation.

Free Will Baptist Theological Seminary and Eureka College

Behind the burning of Eureka College was the long struggle of Original Free Will Baptists to provide Christian education for both ministers and lay people. Although the Free Will Baptist Church could trace its beginning back to 1727, it was not until March 1896, that definite steps were taken to establish an educational center.

At a union meeting held at Spring Branch Church, Pitt County (now Ayden Church), a Board of Directors was elected and charged with the responsibility of founding the school. Members of the Board included J. M. Barfield, President; T. F. Harrison, Secretary; W. F. Hart, Treasurer; E. E. Dail, E. H. Craft, A. L. Harrington, and W. H. Harris.

A frame building was erected in the town of Ayden, North Carolina, and the school opened in 1898 under the principalship of Professor J. E. B. Davis. The following year, Dr. T. E. Peden became principal and the Theology Department for the education of ministers was added. In 1910, Professor J. E. Sawyer succeeded Dr. Peden, who retired.

In these early years, the Seminary included both elementary and secondary education, and as the public school system developed in North Carolina, the Board of Directors decided to close the Seminary and to begin a college-level program. A financial campaign was started in 1919 and in 1925 the Administration Building of Eureka College was occupied and later a dormitory was added.

The December 15, 1926, issue of *The Free Will Baptist* described the new college: "Today the eyes of earnest students for the ministry in our denomination everywhere look with hope to Eureka. It is the 'Star of Hope' for all who seek preparation during the next few years . . . Hail Eureka!—the charge and pride of all Free Will Baptists!" the editor wrote.

For thirty years the leadership for Original Free Will Baptists came from the Seminary and Eureka College. It was a good educational program that produced men and women of vision, insight and commitment to the historic faith of our Church.

(Turn the Page)



The Administration Building of Eureka College which burned during the early morning of November 5, 1931. Constructed more than fifty years ago at a cost of $125,000, a comparable building today would cost in excess of $1,000,000.

"To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified" (Isaiah 61:3).

Tragedy and Faith

The November 11, 1931, issue of *The Free Will Baptist* records the events of that dark night on November 4, 5:

> On Wednesday night of last week the main building of Eureka College was burned so completely that not a bit of wood in the structure remained. This is the greatest and most distinct loss that our people have sustained in our history. We had been doing some educational work for more than thirty years and now this burn has practically destroyed everything that has been done, in a material way, in these many years. The building was erected at a cost of about $125,000 and was really a handsome and commodius structure. But in the face of this stupendous loss to a people without wealth, we should not consider it irreparable, for even greater accomplishments in the field of Christian education is within our power, if we are willing to solidly unite our strength for this purpose under the leadership of the Spirit of God. We possess sufficient latent strength to accomplish tasks far beyond the dreams of the most optimistic provided it can be aroused to the spirit of toil and sacrifice that should characterize every member of our denomination. May we become fully aroused to the necessity of the occasion and resolve to do and sacrifice, wisely and judiciously, until we have attained to a much greater degree of success than ever before.

Mount Olive College

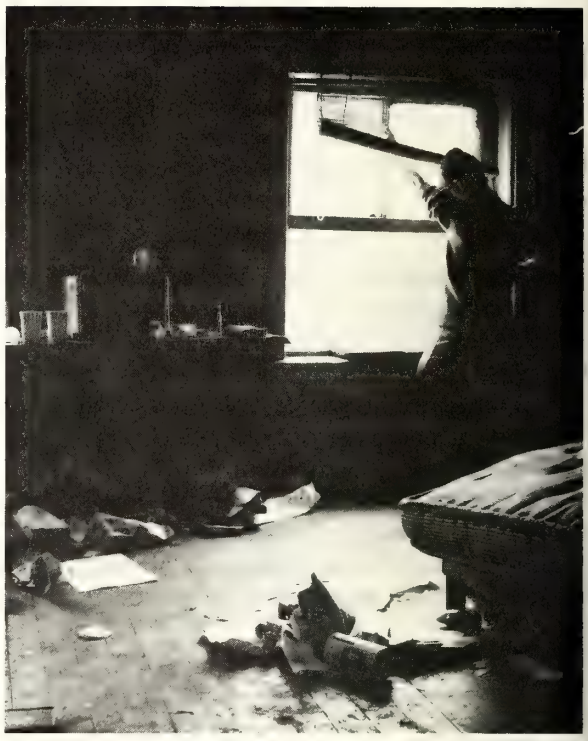
For a full generation, 1931-1951, the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina were without a college, but in 1951 steps were taken to redeem these years. Under the leadership of the Rev. David W. Hansley, Chairman of the Board of Christian Education, the following resolution was presented to the State Convention:

> Due to the increased interest and the demand in the state of North Carolina among Free Will Baptist ministers and laymen for a feasible educational program, that will more adequately meet the present and future needs of our people in general, we, the Board of Christian Education, wish to offer the following recommendations:
>
> That the Board of Christian Education consult and negotiate with the Board of Trustees of Cragmont Assembly and work out feasible plans to establish a Junior College during the winter months at Cragmont Assembly, with the view to establish in connection with the Junior College a Seminary.

At Founders' Day services on November 24, Mount Olive College will celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of its charter.

Mount Olive is rooted in the faith and heritage of Original Free Will Baptists, and as we prepare for the future we do so with a sense of destiny born of history. We believe this college is a "planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified."

"And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations" (Isaiah 61:4).



WHERE IS HAPPINESS?

Not in unbelief–

Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. He wrote: "I wish I had never been born."

Not in pleasure–

Lord Byron lived a life of pleasure, if anyone did. He wrote: "The worm, the canker, and the grief are mine alone."

Not in money–

Jay Gould, the American millionaire, had plenty of that. When dying he said: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

Not in position and fame–

Lord Beaconsfield enjoyed more than his share of both. He wrote: "Youth is a mistake; manhood, a struggle; old age, a regret."

Not in military glory–

Alexander the Great conquered the known world in his day. Having done so, he wept, because, he said, "There are no more worlds to conquer."

Where, then, is happiness found?

The answer is simple: In Christ alone. He said, "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FALL HIGH SCHOOL DAY

Saturday, November 21, 1981



Program

9:30-10:00 A.M.	Registration Refreshments	Henderson Building
10:00-11:00 A.M.	Campus Tour Dorms Student Center Library Henderson Building Chapel Art Exhibit—Downtown Campus	
11:00-12:00 Noon	Welcome and Introduction Musical Program Student Life Academics Financial Aid Student Perspective	Dr. Raper *Mount Olive Singers* Dr. Johnson and Staff Dr. Jeanes and Faculty Mrs. Betty Cobb
12:15 P.M.	Lunch	
1:00 P.M.	Conferences with Faculty Members	
1:30 P.M.	Auditions for the *Mount Olive Singers* Auditions for the *New Creations*	

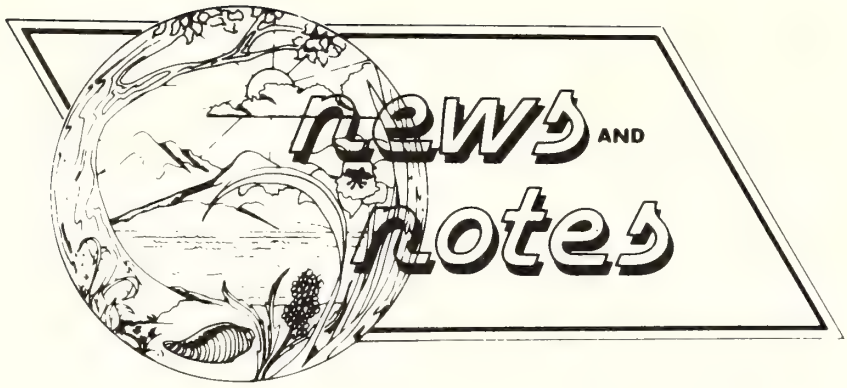
Fall High School Day is an opportunity for Free Will Baptists to become better acquainted with their College. These are just a few of the Free Will Baptist students currently enrolled at Mount Olive. From left to right, they are Sherry Mills from Pleasant Acres Church, Mike Jones from Hopewell Church, Sherry Forrest from Little Creek Church, and Wendy Stallins of Christian Chapel Church. Seated at the organ is Johnny Sullivan from New Sandy Hill Church. Both Mike and Johnny are members of the Mount Olive Singers, who will be featured on the High School Day program.

DETACH AND MAIL

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM

☐ I PLAN TO ATTEND
☐ I WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND, BUT I WOULD LIKE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Name_____
Address _____
City _____State _____Zip _____
Telephone (_____) _____ Career Interest _____
High School _____Year of Graduation _____
I plan to bring the following number of guests with me: _____
Please arrange a conference with:
☐ Financial Aid Officer
☐ Admissions Personnel
☐ College Counselor
☐ Faculty Member in the field of _____
☐ Audition for the *MOUNT OLIVE SINGERS*
☐ Audition for the *NEW CREATIONS*



SPECIAL DAY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



Left to right: seated: Sadie Edgerton, the Rev. Hillery Minchew, Rachel Hinnant, Atlas Pittman, Mittie Pittman, and Alma Ferrell; standing: Eula Medlin, Flossie Edwards, Dora Cuddington, Ora Shirley, Lee Hooks, Ruby Hooks, Henry Watkins, Hazel Hales, and Perry Hales.

Piney Grove Church of Route 1, Kenly, recently held a special recognition day for its senior citizens. During the morning worship service the pastor, the Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, presented each one a certificate of recognition for his faithful years of service to the church. He rendered remarks of each one's services he had performed throughout the years. The pastor presented each one with a long stemmed red rose which was given by the Ladies Auxiliary. Following the worship service lunch was served in the fellowship hall.

Western District Youth Rally To Be Held

The Western District Youth Rally will be held at First Church of Wilson, on Saturday, November 28, at 7:30 p.m.

Cape Fear Conference Ordaining Council to Meet

The Ordaining Council of the Cape Fear Conference will meet in the pastor's study of First Church in Smithfield, on Monday, November 23, at 1:30 p.m. Any persons having business with this council are asked to be present at this time.

Special Thanksgiving Service At Rose of Sharon Church

There will be a special Thanksgiving service at Rose of Sharon Church, Bear Grass, on November 22, at 6 p.m. During this service of worship and praise the choir will present selections from the cantata entitled "Festival of Praise" (an experience in worship and praise). Everyone is invited to attend this service. The pastor of Rose of Sharon is the Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood.

Cape Fear Ministers To Meet

The Cape Fear Ministers' Conference will meet in the fellowship hall of First Church in Smithfield, on Monday, November 23, at 10 a.m. The Rev. Walter Reynolds is scheduled to bring a program on the work of Superannuation.

All of the Cape Fear ministers are encouraged to attend this time of fellowship, and any other interested ministers are invited to attend.

Laymen's League to Have Singspiration

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will be having its fall singspiration on November 20 and 21. Free Union Church, Greene County, will host the singspiration on November 20, at 7:30 p.m. Rose Hill Church, Pitt County, will host the singspiration on November 21, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these inspiring music services. There is no admission. A Free Will offering will be received for Mount Olive College, so please be prepared. The program is as follows:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
The Free Union Singers
Grimsley Choir
The Bethany Singers
Mickey and Vickie Baysden
Ormondsville Choir
Williamston Singers
The Piney Grove Singers
The Friendship Singers
Spring Branch Choir

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
The Rose Hill Singers
Elm Grove Choir
The Hickory Grove Singers
The Gospelaires
Tarboro Men's Quartet
The Rev. O. B. Jones
Mount Zion Quartet
The Winterville Singers
The Gospel Chargers

Cape Fear Union Meeting to Be Held

Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at Daly's Chapel Church, near LaGrange, on Saturday, November 28, 1981. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. Hubert Stanley
—Welcome, the Rev. Foy Futrelle
—Response, the Rev. Phillip Wood
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Arnold Price
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Fellowship
Moderator, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough
Secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley

Second Union of Western Conference to Meet

The Second Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, November 28, 1981, at 7 p.m., at Union Chapel Church in Nash County south of Middlesex. The host church and the Union extend a cordial welcome to everyone.

November is Children's Home Month

"THE BEGINNING AND THE END"

Part Three

by Graham Faucette

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last" (Revelation 22:13).

CHRIST IS THE A AND THE Z OF THIS WORLD'S RESCUE

Christ is the beginning and the end of this world's rescue.

The story is told of a great crowd at the beach one day, all enjoying themselves to the fullest, when someone cried out and pointed toward deep water: "Look, someone is drowning out there and needs help." Of the hundreds of people on the beach, only one, the lifeguard, was able to go out and save the drowning man.

One day on the "beach" of Heaven there sat a throng of immortals, all merry with a great gladness. Suddenly one of them cried out, "Look at the world down there—the people are drowning in sin. They need help and they need it now. Who will go to their rescue?" The angels dared not go, and it seemed that all Heaven was helpless, that no one knew how to save the world that was sinking fast. Only one could go to the rescue.

Heaven's Lifeguard, Jesus, threw down His robe and His crown and leaped to the rescue of mankind. He beat His way through the wrath of evil to the dying world. Out into the "deep waters" He went with bloody agony; He wrestled to save it. It seemed for a little while uncertain whether the world would take Him down or if He would lift it up. Those on the beach trembled as they watched, and then at last they saw that His great strength could lift it up. With His right hand He lifted up and brought it back. Then when His work was finished, He went back to Heaven and joined the great cloud of witnesses.

He began the work and He shall complete it one day. He is the beginning and the end; He is the A and the Z of our world's rescue.

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH

Now is the time to begin working on the 1982 Declamation, Essay and Bible Bowl Quiz contests.

The Declamation subject is "Abounding Aliveness," 1 Thessalonians 3:12. The information and rules for the Declamation contest are found on Page 74 of the *Youth Program Book for 1981.*

The Essay subject is "Redeeming the Time," Ephesians 5:16. Information and rules concerning the Essay contest are found on Page 75 of the *Youth Program Book for 1981.*

This year the Bible Bowl Quiz will be taken from Acts Chapters 1-15 (King James Version). If you are interested in participating and would like a copy of the guide and rules, please write to: Deborah King, District Youth Chairman, 1316 Manchester Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

Youth leaders, please encourage your youth to participate. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Deborah King

YOUR OWN VERSION

You are writing a Gospel,
A chapter each day,
By deeds that you do,
By words that you say.

Men read what you write,
Whether faithless or true;
Say, what is the Gospel
According to YOU?

—Gilbert

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

A CAMPUS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS



These students discuss plans for High School Day to be held November 21 at Mount Olive College. They are (from left to right) Lisa Jones of Farmville, Tim Heath of Wilmington, Wayne Harris of Marlboro, Lisa Rowe of Chocowinity, Greg Pittman of Wilson, and Janet Cooke of Four Oaks.

"Today's students have many factors to consider when choosing a college," stated Nancy Sampsell, director of admissions. Location, size, cost, academic reputation, scholarships and financial aid, and career choice are important aspects of the decision. Students must also be aware of the atmosphere on a college campus, and they must know themselves well enough to decide what type of environment will contribute to their personal development.

Fall High School Day, November 21, at Mount Olive College is an opportune time for Free Will Baptists to visit the campus and meet the faculty and administration of their college.

"We encourage students to learn about our academic and student life programs by coming to campus," said Mrs. Sampsell. On High School Day, prospective students will have an opportunity to meet Betty Cobb, director of financial aid, and Caroline Castelloe, director of counseling services. In addition, they will be introduced to faculty members and encouraged to tour the campus.

An opportunity will also be provided for visitors to talk with students currently enrolled at Mount Olive College.

Auditions for both the Mount Olive Singers and the New Creations will be held after lunch at 1:30 p.m.

Further information on the activities for Fall High School Day may be found on Page 5. Students who have not yet mailed in the response form are welcome, although the form or a phone call is helpful in assuring the availability of specific persons. Appointments for interviews can be made by contacting the Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; telephone, (919) 658-2502.

NOVEMBER 24: FOUNDERS' DAY AND TRUSTEES MEETING



The Rev. James A. Evans

Tuesday, November 24, will be a special day at Mount Olive College.

The Board of Trustees will hold its regular quarterly

meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Moye Library. Three new trustees, whose terms officially begin December 1, will be attending this meeting as an orientation session to the Board of Trustees. The new members include Fred L. Pait of Bladenboro, Clayton Everett of Charlotte, and John C. Howard Jr. of Lenoir County.

At 11 a.m. the Annual Founders' Day service of the College will be held in Rodgers Chapel. The Rev. James A. Evans, the first full-time employee of Mount Olive College after it located in Mount Olive, will be the speaker. This event will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the chartering of Mount Olive College.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Casey's Chapel Church, Wayne County, on Sunday, November 22, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college.

The pastor of Casey's Chapel Church is the Rev. Bryant Hines Jr.

ATTENTION MINISTERS

As you know, during the Ministers' Conference at Cragmont in 1978, we pledged $5,000 to the building program of Cragmont. We pledged to pay as a group $1,000 a year for 5 years. In the past years, we have been able to meet the pledge. This year, however, we have only paid a total of $402 on our pledge. If you have not paid your pledge for this year, please send your check for $20 to the Rev. Ralph Sumner, P. O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571.

Ray Wells, *Secretary*
North Carolina Ministerial Association

CORE CREEK HONORED A FAITHFUL COUPLE

by Mrs. Woodrow McCoy



Earl and Pet Ipock

On October 18, 1981, Core Creek Church, Cove City, North Carolina, honored its oldest deacon, Earl Ipock, and his wife, Pet, with an evening service, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall.

The service started with singing some of their favorite songs. During the service the quartet sang, "Count Your Blessings."

The pastor, the Rev. Bass Mitchell, enumerated many things that Earl and Pet have contributed to their church during the last 40 years. He quoted Matthew 20:26, 27. Then he added, "In the sight of Jesus, greatness and honor are ascribed to those who willingly accept the place of servanthood to God and neighbor. They have always been ready and willing to serve, for they have dedicated their lives to the One who is the greatest example of servanthood the world has ever known."

Earl became a member of Core Creek Church on September 7, 1928, and has been faithful to the church these past 53 years. He was ordained as a deacon on March 6, 1943. He and his wife, Pet, have been preparing the communion table for many years. Whenever the church needed tables, speaker stands, cabinets or anything to be repaired you could count on him to take care of these things. He also served as head usher for many years. He was always ready to do his part in helping the church to be a better place to worship the Lord.

His wife, Pet, joined the church June 5, 1943. She also has been faithful to the church. She taught many Sunday school classes, helped give Christmas and Easter programs, and always with her husband's help had games for all ages to play.

Of course, we can't write down all that Earl and Pet have contributed to the church and community. God has the record and that is what counts.

As our pastor said in the service, "All these things might be considered to be small things, but how these small things add up; take away all of them and we would have a much poorer church. You see everyone matters here, in Christ's church, for we are all a part of His body from the youngest to the oldest. You are important. Your contribution is needed and desired."

At the end of the service Earl and Pet were presented a certificate of recognition, after which the church gave a reception in their honor.

News from the



Taylor Hill

Home Front

STATE HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION NEWS

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus. We all have our problems, but not more than Jesus can handle.

VICTORY MISSION at Hope Mills is doing very well; new converts are being made and they are growing in number. Charles and Barbara Parrish are ministering there.

FREE SPIRIT at Wilson is organized into a church now; Dale and Jasmine Albertson have done a fantastic job.

HERITAGE MISSION has full-time missionaries now; Billy and Joyce Nowell. Their new address is 1439 Thermal Road, Charlotte, NC 28212.

CATALPA MISSION in Fayetteville has done and is still doing an excellent job. A lot of new converts are being made and are filling the church building. The pastor and wife are Alton and Mary Helen Howard.

CAPE COLONY at Cape Colony near Edenton is now a church, praise the Lord.

AGAPE MISSION in Raleigh is still looking for success. The missionaries are Ronnie and Sue Hall.

FAITH at Leland is still hanging in there and trying to be a success; it is co-sponsored by the Eastern Conference.

EASTOVER MISSION near Fayetteville is getting along fine. Their new missionaries are Edward and Burlene Painter.

ADVANCE MISSION near Winston-Salem is still fairly new and progress is slow, but we expect it to pick up and do better real soon. The missionaries are Jerry and Betty Campbell.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST in Beaufort is now an organized church and doing well. It was co-sponsored by the Eastern Conference. James and Dean Gurganus are ministering there.

HAYMOUNT MISSION in Fayetteville is getting along very well; the missionaries are Taylor and Lois Hill.

We are very thankful to see that we now have three organized churches: FREE SPIRIT, BEAUFORT, and CAPE COLONY. We have at least three more that can organize before very long: VICTORY, CATALPA and HAYMOUNT. Self-supporting are: CATALPA, HAYMOUNT, CAPE COLONY, FREE SPIRIT, VICTORY and BEAUFORT.

You and Christ Jesus have been very good to us and we are indeed thankful.

Taylor Hill, *Executive Director*

A MEMORIAL TO MR. IVEY RHODES

He came to our church on each Lord's Day
To worship, to sing, and to pray.
Before the altar He would fall on his knees
To talk to his Father in Heaven, whom he lived to please.

His favorite bench was always ready for him to enjoy.
As He entered the church, there was no trace of sin to destroy
The satisfied look on his face, for He always wore a smile
Although his health was failing, and he was in pain a long while.

He enjoyed the singing, preaching, and you could hear his Amen
All over the church as a witness to those who did attend.
For our dear friend had a close relationship with his Father above
That some did not understand, but could tell it was God's wonderful love
That showed through his life.

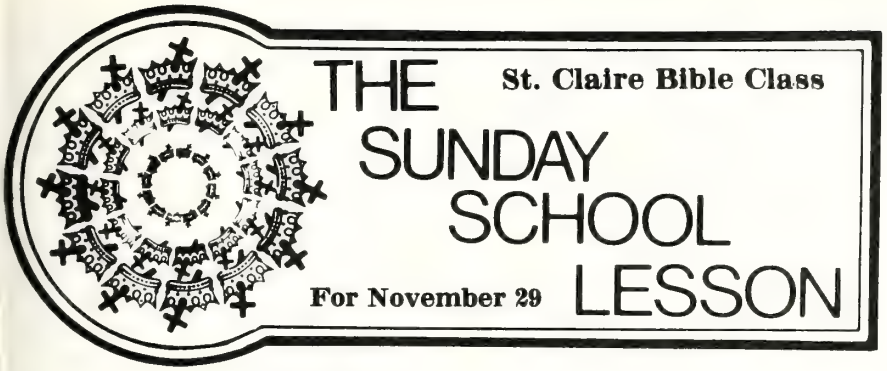
Our Brother was very faithful amid sickness and pain
For he witnessed to all, and in all his life did command
The spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are so sad at the parting of our dear friend who was so faithful to our church here in Goldsboro for 38 years, and was always in his place, even though he had to walk with a cane sometimes. We know that God in His infinite wisdom chose to call our dear Brother home to be with Him, and that one day, we will see him again kneeling around the throne, as he knelt at the altar of our church on each Lord's day.

Jesus said: "I am the resurrection, and the life: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die, Believes thou this?"

For the life and ministry of this dedicated servant of the Lord, we give thanks and praise to God!

—*Hazel Case*



LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Lesson Text: 1 John 4:7-21
Memory Verse: 1 John 4:11

I. INTRODUCTION

In less than sixty years after its beginning, the church began to be infiltrated by a sect called the gnostics, the "knowers." Members of that group claimed advanced knowledge. Unfortunately, much of what they claimed to know was not true. Many of them held the idea that everything material is bad, including the human body. Therefore they said Jesus could not possibly be God in the flesh. John saw that it was necessary to warn Christians against that falsehood (1 John 4:2, 3). The battle against such un-Christian teaching made it the more necessary for real Christians to cling together in sincere love.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In this Epistle, John has much to say about love. "God is love" (4:8, 16). Love is essential to the Christian life (4:8). He who loves God must also love his brothers (3:10; 4:20, 21). The word "love," in one form or another, is used twenty-eight times in our Scripture for today.

B. There are three Greek words for love: *agape, philia,* and *eros.* The first word, *agape,* indicates a reasoning, discriminating attachment founded in the conviction that the object is worthy of esteem, or entitled to it on account of benefits bestowed. The second word, *philia,* represents a warm more instinctive sentiment, more closely allied to feeling and implying passion. And in the third word, *eros,* the idea of sensual passion predominates. This third word is not used by the writers of the New Testament, and the first is not used by classical Greek writers. So it seems obvious that God's love is *agape.* This is the one that we will be talking about in this lesson.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Two Sundays ago we spoke of 1 Corinthians 13 as "the love chapter" of the Bible, as it is called by some. However, others think of 1 John 4:11 as the love chapter for reasons obvious as one reads it. "To each his own," we would say, and let the reader make his own choice.

B. We must say, whatever the reader's choice may be, that the selection of 1 John 4 as one of the great passages of the Bible was a good one. Certainly this is true of the portion which forms our Bible text for today's lesson. Love is a gift from God, bestowed upon us when we became His children. That is why we suddenly discovered that we no longer hated a certain person, but rather felt Christian affection for him. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God . . ." (1 John 3:1). But that is not all: He bestows His love even more abundantly upon us when we make a complete dedication of our all to Christ and invite His Spirit to have control of our lives.

C. If you will count the number of times the word love is used in one form or another in the text for this lesson, you may understand why it is called by some the love chapter.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Love Aligns the Life—A mechanic was explaining to a man in the garage that his front wheels needed aligning. The car owner was not favorable to the proposal and asked what difference it would make. The mechanic said, "It makes a lot of difference. You don't get as much out of your tires and you lose a lot of power. Unless aligned, each wheel pulls against the others and doesn't give a good safe ride." God's Word teaches that we are to love our fellowman as ourselves. Unless our lives are aligned with God and with our fellowman, we cannot get the most out of life.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

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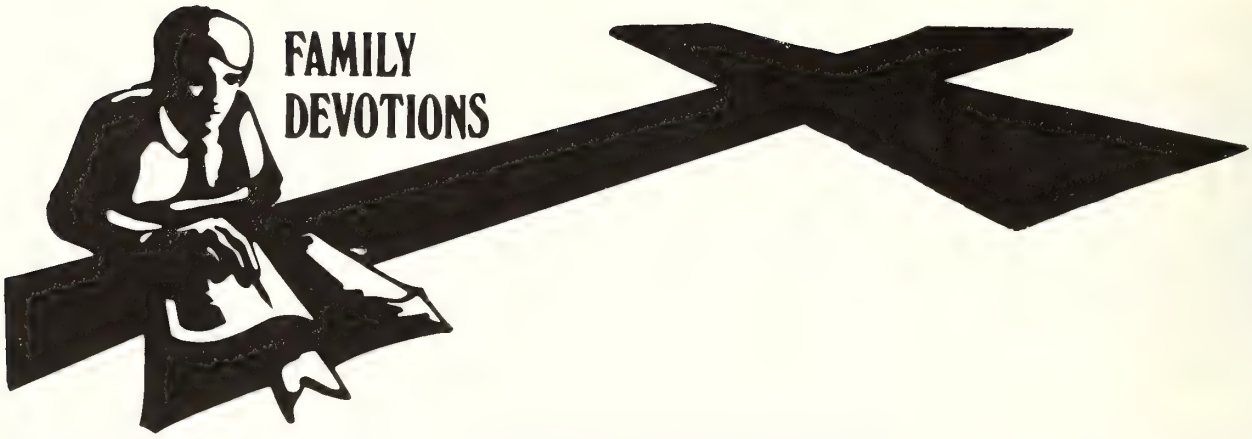
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 9

DARKNESS EVERYWHERE

Lamented Nehru as Gandhi died from an assassin's bullets, "O God! O God! The light has gone out of our lives and there is darkness everywhere!"

Though Jesus, "the Sun of righteousness" has come, myriads still "dwell in the land of the shadow of death" (see Malachi 4:2a; Isaiah 9:2b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved (John 3:17).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Scripture Reading – Romans 1:16-32

ITS REVOLUTIONARY POWER

If Christ favored the wearing of long hair, it was because long hair was the custom of the time. He did not wear it as a symbol of non-conformity. His individuality did not reside in external forms, such as a growth on the chin, a medallion around His neck, or a picket sign waved above His head. Christ's purpose was not to winnow away the chaff of custom. There was nothing conspicuous about His personage. It was Christ's message that was revolutionary.

PRAYER THOUGHT

His heart-transforming, character-ennobling gospel is still the "power (dynamite) of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Scripture Reading – Matthew 17:1-21

BELIEVING THE INCREDIBLE

In 1845, in the First Baptist Church of Augusta, Georgia, the Southern Baptist Convention was organized. As a tribute to the faith of the founding fathers, the church placed this inscription in the building: "Men who see the invisible, hear the inaudible, believe the incredible, and think the unthinkable!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith . . . (Hebrews 12: 1, 2).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Scripture Reading – Nehemiah 13:1-22

A RECORD-BREAKER

When Congressman Charles E. Bennett (D-Fla) started his nineteenth consecutive year of not missing a single record vote in the House of Representatives, it was said that his 2,242 votes cast without a single miss had broken all previous records in the 180-year history of Congress.

One of the greatest lacks among God's children is faithfulness in church attendance. The ancient question is relevant: "Why is the house of God forsaken?" (Nehemiah 13:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

How often is God's directive disobeyed: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is" (Hebrews 10:25a).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Scripture Reading – Romans 5, 6

"THAT'S DEAD EASY!"

A newly converted Communist entered the study of Dr. Roy O. McClain, a former pastor of the First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, and said, "As you know, I have renounced communism. I am ignorant as to the Christian way of life, and I want to know what is required of me as a Christian."

Dr. McClain gladly stipulated the following things that the new convert should do in order to grow in grace and Christlikeness. "You should read your Bible daily and pray. You should make much of Christian fellowship and regularly attend the services of the church. You should faithfully witness for Christ, telling others about your newly found joy in Him. And you should give at least a tenth of your income to God's work."

The man instantly replied, "These things will be dead easy for me to do!"

Astonished, Dr. McClain asked, "Easy?"

"Yes, that's exactly right! You see, when I was a Communist, I spent three hours daily extolling the alleged virtues of communism. I gave one-half of my income to propagate communism around the world. And I spent most of my weekends and vacations converting others to communism!"

Dr. McClain thought, "Now I know why one-third of the world's people are under the sway of darksome, soul-enslaving, personality-dwarfing communism!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness (Romans 6:18).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Romans 4

SPURGEON'S MAD VOYAGE

At one time, Charles Spurgeon was whelmed by doubt. *There is no God,* he thought, *and prayer is a meaningless exercise!* He had let go the anchor of faith and raised his sails to the winds of unbelief to set out on what he called his "mad voyage."

Later, he joyfully affirmed, "I have sailed that perilous voyage of unbelief. Now I have anchored my soul in the haven of rest. Now lashed to God's gospel more firmly than ever, I am standing on the eternal Rock of Ages—Jesus. I defy the arguments of Hell to move me!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised) (Hebrews 10:23).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—James 1:19-27

IN AND OUT

Said Dr. Alan Redpath, "The Christian life is not an up-and-down life, but an in-and-out life: in for orders, out for obedience; in for worship, out for witnessing; in for surrender, out for service."

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only . . . (James 1:22).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Harry G. Brown announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He is also available for evangelistic meetings. He may be contacted by writing him at 3308 Hope Valley Road, Durham, North Carolina 27707; or by phone, 477-6235 or 489-8584.

Wilson Bible and Bookstore To Host an Autograph Party Saturday, November 28 for Joyce Proctor Beaman



The author of numerous magazine articles, poems, and three popular books, Joyce Proctor Beaman speaks directly to her readers about internal beauty, external beauty, and eternal beauty in her latest release, *You Are Beautiful: You Really Are.*

You Are Beautiful: You Really Are ($7.95) is a genuine, heart-to-heart effort in inspiring a positive self-image, confidence, and joy in living—with oneself, with others, and with God. Have Mrs. Beaman autograph your copy of this book November 28!

OTTER'S CREEK HAS PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

submitted by Edna Ruth Pittman

On October 18, 1981, the members of Otter's Creek Church near Macclesfield held pastor appreciation day for their minister, the Rev. Ralph Aycock. James Rufus Owens opened the service by leading the congregation in two of his favorite songs, "I Love to Tell the Story," and "More About Jesus." The Woman's Auxiliary and the Layman's League presented flowers to Mr. and Mrs. Aycock. They also presented him with a Bible. The choir sang "Send the Light."

The following was read by Edna Ruth Pittman.

The Rev. Ralph Aycock became our pastor in October, 1973, and served until May, 1977; he returned on June 11, 1978. Much has been accomplished in the years he has been with us. One of his first projects was installing the baptistry, which we all felt we were in need of. It thrills his and our hearts to see converts come forward to be saved and later to be baptized in the pool.

Mr. Aycock is very dedicated to his church. Whenever one of his members needs him, regardless of the reason, no one has to say come, for he quickly responds. Even though he has a full-time job and his body gets tired just as ours does, you never hear him complain. We would not want to forget his wife, Juanita, who stands by with her help and support.

Two men have entered the ministry during his pastoral work here.

Whether he is in your home or at church, he is truly a man of God.

We would like to sum up by saying, we appreciate you, Ralph Aycock, for what you have meant to us and what you stand for.

May God bless you for the past, in the present, and be with you during the future.

After the morning service, lunch was served in the fellowship area to honor this occasion.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

wonder where all the great men of yesterday, the men who stood up for their beliefs and worked to see their dreams realized, are? Martin Luther, Jonathan Evans, where are you when we need you?

*You mean God wants—expects—***us** *to reach out to the unchurched, to tell others about Him and His love? You mean* **we** *can make a difference in today's world?*

Oh.

COMING EVENTS

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 21—Thanksgiving Services, 10:30 a.m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex; the Rev. Craig Simmons of First Church, Wilson, will be the guest speaker

November 26—Thanksgiving Day

November 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 29—Mount Olive College Day in local churches

OUR PASTOR NEVER STOPS

Occasionally someone will say, "Our pastor never stops to visit in our home." If the pastor never stops at your home, you probably should thank God. It means death has not struck, that no serious illness has laid you low, or that the surgeon's knife had not been necessary, or that you have had no serious family problem or that you are not a spiritually delinquent member.

As a rule, your pastor does not have time for "social calls." It is not that he would not enjoy doing so, it is simply a matter of priorities . . . putting first things first. Your pastor does not have time to do everything he would like to do. However, you may be sure of this: your pastor is willing to come to the hospital or your home, the jail, the street corner, or anywhere at any hour of the day, or night when he is needed. Call him if you need him. Otherwise he will not know of your need until it is too late.

For the moment, thank God you have not needed him. One day you will need him and he will be there when you call. Now he is visiting someone else who does need him.

November Is

CHILDREN'S

HOME MONTH



November 21st Thanksgiving Services
at the Children's Home

The Rev. Craig Simmons of
First Church of Wilson
will be the guest speaker.

Services begin at 10:30 a.m. * Picnic Lunch at Noon

Open House in the Afternoon



Is Gift Buying for Dad Baffling You?

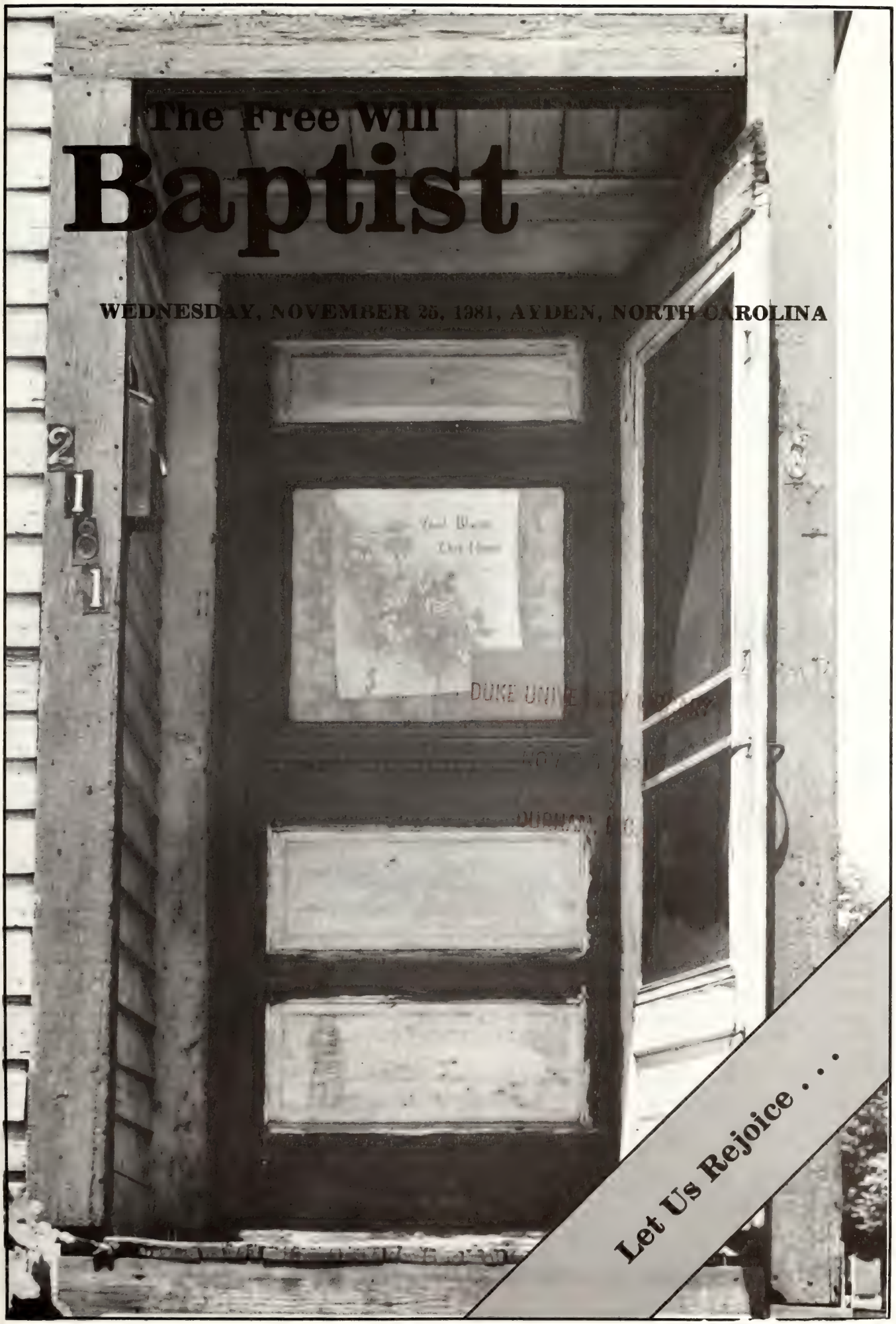
Fathers are often hard to buy for—especially when they seem to have everything. Our five bookstores have many items that are sure to please any father. We have Bibles (of all sizes, colors, and descriptions), gift subscriptions to *The Free Will Baptist* (one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20; prices include sales tax for North Carolina residents), devotional and inspirational books—as well as some on finances and family life, commentaries and all kinds of Bible study aids, pens, sport wallets, pocket calendars, music, records, tapes . . . and the list goes on and on.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

". . . Thou Shalt Rejoice In Every Good Thing . . . ."

The day started out like so many others: I knew a great deal of work was waiting for me at the office. But it did not take me long to realize that much of that which I needed to do would remain undone at day's end. Small tasks became complicated matters. My entire (planned) scheduled was messed up by delays, unexpected disasters, and a prevailing state of chaos. Amid all the turmoil, bits and pieces of bad news drifted into the department; the phones rang off their hooks; and a dark cloud loomed overhead.

As I look back on it now, I have no regrets that the day has become history; but I also realize that many of the items that caused me concern were not nearly as bad as they appeared. I have to remember that dark clouds are replaced by the sunshine of God's love and the assurance that He is near. And for this, I am thankful; it is a cause for celebration.

Most of us celebrate the obvious—it is hard not to. It is difficult to overlook Christmas when elves begin appearing in shopping malls in mid-October (and we can always be sure we will have the shopping-days countdown blues by December 1!). Similarly, Thanksgiving, Easter, and the Fourth of July are front and center in our consciousness.

We usually observe personal celebrations, too. We remember birthdays, anniversaries, and graduations—or we had better have a good explanation as to why we forgot. Much of the fun and laughter at such occasions isn't planned; it seems to be the result of some spontaneous combustion. For example, a look at wedding pictures is guaranteed to provoke laughter from friends and near-hysteria from one's children.

Most lump-in-the-throat occasions occur at unexpected times. The addition of a guinea pig to the family's already too plentiful menagerie thrills youngsters, but seldom do adults view such as a blessed event. Getting excited when our team wins means more when we remember it's just a game—not a war. Sending cards is often seen as a seasonal party-pooper until we receive one that contains a note from some special person that rekindles a flame and awakens our memory. Going to family reunions is an important gesture to some people; others view it as an act of self-flagellation. But when we go to a reunion under duress and end up having an enjoyable time, banners should be flown, candles lit, and a private holiday declared.

Certain events are so private only one or two individuals even know a celebration is occurring. No outward ritual is observed. All that is evident is a quiet beating of hearts and a shared glance—but, oh, how significant the occasion might be!

Happy are those whose ability to rejoice is great. They find much to celebrate.

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Thanksgiving: Our Response to God for His Goodness

W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College



"WHAT shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?" (Psalm 116:12).

The Psalmist has raised a question for each of us to answer: What response will we make to God for His goodness to us? Thanksgiving has its beginning not in what we do but in what has been done for us. From the Christian point of view, Thanksgiving is our response to God for His goodness.

Thanksgiving is not only a season of the year, it is a quality of life. The grace of gratitude is one of the finest qualities a person can possess.

I. God's Benefits Toward Me

The season of Thanksgiving has come upon us this year with special meaning.

From its beginning, both in biblical days and in the history of our nation, Thanksgiving has been associated with the agricultural harvest season. While one-half of the world's people are hungry, in the United States we have had an abundant harvest. A "bumper crop," we call it, when we have more than we can consume and more than the international market can buy.

Our nation is free and at peace. Our employment rate is over ninety percent. Advances in

Turn the Page

medical science continue to lengthen and to improve the quality of our physical lives. Our schools and colleges provide us all the educational opportunities we will use. Our time in history gives us the option of having almost anything for which we are willing to pay the price in time, effort, and commitment.

Our churches are open, and for the most part they are beautiful and comfortable. The good news of Jesus Christ and the fellowship of Christian people are available to all of us in America.

In addition to the blessings which have come to the nation, the Psalmist lists some of his personal benefits. In a time of crisis, God heard his prayer and rescued him from disaster:

> "The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me; I was overcome by trouble and sorrow. Then I called on the name of the LORD: O LORD, save me!" (Psalm 116:3, *New International Version).*

Each of us could also list our individual blessings of how God has been good to us and to our families, but perhaps the blessings that are more meaningful are too personal to be made public.

II. God: The Source of Our Benefits

The season of Thanksgiving calls us to consider the source of our blessings. In our innermost being we know this source is beyond ourselves. We know that "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1).

In his *Confessions,* St. Augustine asks, "Who hath anything that is not Thine?" One of the central teachings of the Bible is that God is our Creator, the Sustainer of the universe, and the Fountain of all that is good.

The Bible never argues about the existence of God; it simply affirms and declares it:

> "Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves: we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture" (Psalm 100:3).

The good fortunes which come to us are not by chance but by design—the design of God. Thanksgiving is a good time to ask, "What do I have that did not come from God?"

I have often wondered what the atheist does with the concept of Thanksgiving. To whom does he give thanks?

III. What Shall I Render Unto the Lord?

The Psalmist suggests three ways by which we can express our gratitude to God for His goodness.

A. **The Cup of Salvation:** "I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD" (Psalm 116:13).

The basic message of the Bible is the provision God has made for our salvation. In the Old Testament, this provision was expressed through the sacrifice of animals and a drink offering as an atonement for our sins (see Exodus 29:36-40). In the New Testament, this atonement is through the death of Christ and is expressed by the cup Jesus shared with His disciples: ". . . This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:20).

Our greatest expression of Thanksgiving is to accept God's gift of Himself for our salvation.

B. **Payment of Our Vows:** "I will pay my vows unto the LORD . . ." (Psalm 116:14).

Who of us, in times of danger and distress, has not made promises to God? When life threatens us, we call to God for deliverance and promise that if He will see us through our trouble, we will do certain things. Jacob had this kind of experience when he was fleeing from his brother, Esau, and God appeared to him at Bethel:

> "And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee" (Genesis 28:20-22).

Thanksgiving is a good time to pay our vows. The practice of stewardship is our expression of gratitude to God for His benefits to us.

C. **Worship:** "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD" (Psalm 116:17).

In the Old Testament, "The sacrifice of thanksgiving" was a voluntary—free will—offering that was made as an act of worship (see Leviticus 7:11-15; 22:29). Giving thanks to God is indeed an experience of worship. The Bible teaches us to:

> "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations" (Psalm 100:4, 5).

Giving thanks to God should not be restricted to a day or a season but rather the "Doxology" should be the song of our lives:

> "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
> Praise Him, all creatures here below;
> Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
> Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." □

THERE is no reason why doing good shouldn't feel good. Many of us have become so wary about good works ("lest any man should boast") that we do them—if we do them at all—out of a dull and compelling sense of duty. That way we are not allowed to take any credit or feel any joy.

Good works should be and can be joyful. God *loves* a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7). I find no such promise for the cheerless giver, whose gift—while it may accomplish good—does not fill a void in his or her life. Granted, there are skilled manipulators, even well-intentioned ones, who prod people to give by telling them how much they will get back or how happy they make God, instead of presenting the need and letting the response take care of itself. And certainly, giving can be ego-directed, if one gives simply to feel good or to get off an uncomfortable hook.

But some Christians are so fearful that pride may infiltrate their good works (knowing that we don't and can't earn salvation), they minimize the danger of avoiding good works. They have not discovered the difference between taking pride and finding joy. The receiver needs to receive and the giver needs to give. Neither need can stand alone. While doing one's best does not necessarily call for the creation of a new national holiday, knowing one has done it produces a measure of the joy that helps to make us whole persons.

The Bible says a lot about joy, including that strange verse which tells us to "consider it pure joy . . . whenever you face trials of many kinds" (James 1:2, NIV). The reason being, of course, that "the testing of your faith develops perseverance." It does no credit to God for Christians to walk around with the look of terminal misery on their faces.

Consider the verse on which I was brought up: "This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24, KJV). The word "rejoice" implies an act of the will—"be joyful." There is something positive about it. You don't sit there waiting for someone to suffuse you with joy. Rejoicing is something *you* do. "We *will* rejoice; we *will* be joyful."

And all this time we have been going on the assumption that if it made you feel good, there was probably something wrong with it. The gospel is the Good News, not the bad news our cultivated cheerlessness would suggest. "Grin and bear it" is not a biblical admonition. We act as if, were we to let down our guard and be happy, we would tempt Satan to prove that life is a burden, not a celebration.

Lest we attract his attention like Job did, we keep a low happiness profile.

And the results are not merely neutral; they are negative. Suppressing the spontaneous joy which arises from doing good, we become susceptible to pride. (Being creatures of emotion, we cannot, after all, simply feel nothing.) The publican who went up to the temple and prayed ostentatiously was getting kicks that he should have found in his otherwise exemplary life-style. He was a methodical and even meticulous giver, but, clearly, he didn't get any fun out of his giving. Pride was all he had left.

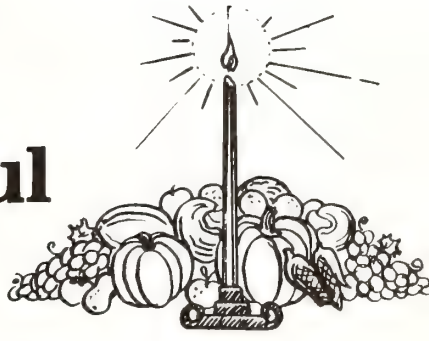
Where is the balance between pride and joy? Jesus said, "When you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men." (Besides, that way you'll get on a lot of mailing lists!) "I tell you, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Matthew 6:3, NIV). But there is no reason why your right hand can't know what your right hand is doing; you don't have to hide your joy from yourself.

I received a letter from a caring contributor struggling with some of these problems. "Because my husband and I give, and we generally give more than a tithe, we don't have new clothes or a TV like our friends, and we don't know if we'll ever be able to afford a home of our own. Materially we are 'poor' compared to all our friends. It is hard to give when I don't get encouragement from those around me, and it's even harder when I wonder if God really cares about my 'works.' Does He care about my struggle to give? I guess I know deep inside that He cares and is pleased. But no one tells me that."

It is important to be aware that God cares. About Cornelius, the Bible says, "He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. One day he . . . saw an angel of God, who came to him and said . . . 'Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a remembrance before God' " (Acts 10:2-4, NIV). God knew.

(Continued on Page 15)

On Thankful Giving



submitted by Frank Ray Harrison



Layman's League To Sponsor Dinner

The members of the Layman's League of Ayden Church will prepare a chicken stew on Saturday, December 5, in the church Fellowship Hall. Plates will be on sale from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Gum Swamp Church Honors New Pastor and His Family

Sunday, November 8, proved to be quite a happy and enjoyable day at Gum Swamp Church. The day was set aside to welcome and honor the new pastor, the Rev. Ray Williamson; his wife, Evelyn; and their two children, Brad and Cherry. The pastor's and his wife's parents were present to worship and enjoy the day. There were approximately one hundred and forty-five present. Mr. Williamson began his pastorate at Gum Swamp on November 1.

The sermon he delivered during the worship hour was very timely and inspiring and the people at Gum Swamp are looking forward to hearing many more, and working together in a way that will honor and glorify God.

The worship hour being ended, the congregation assembled in the fellowship building where tables were arranged and beautifully decorated.

The president of the Woman's Auxiliary made remarks about the occasion, and the chairman of the Deacon Board returned thanks for the bountiful meal that had been prepared.

The people welcome the pastor and family, and hope that all will work together to promote the cause of Christ.

Fifth Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Fifth Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference will be held at Memorial Church, Beaufort County, on November 28, starting at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the special music, preaching, fellowship, and feast.

Piney Grove Has Dedication Service



Piney Grove Church, Duplin County, can trace its beginning back to at least 1876. In that year, Mr. Jackson Potter set aside two acres, more or less, for the construction of a church near what was then known as the Searles Field School. From that time onward, Piney Grove has grown and prospered under God's blessings, the direction of its ministers, and through the dedication, love, and cooperation of its congregation.

In 1930, the need to replace the then existing building was realized. In order to do so a clear deed was needed. Mr. I. T. Stroud, who had come into ownership through the Jackson Potter heirs, gave just such a deed. A board of trustees was formed to receive ownership of the property for the church and it consisted of the following members: J. E. Stroud, Barney Stroud, R. E. Koonce, L. N. Jones, and Offie Smith.

Being blessed by the Lord, a still bigger church was soon needed and in 1944 a building committee headed by Walter Hill undertook this project. The congregation joined in various fund-raising events and construction began in 1951. Additional funds were needed in 1953 in order to finish, and on July 14, 1957, the late Rev. Walter Carter officiated at a dedication service for the new church.

The growth of Piney Grove Church did not stop in 1957, for in 1962 the land was resurveyed so that Sunday school rooms could be added across the back. In 1971, Mr. I. T. Stroud donated an additional tract of land upon which our fellowship hall now stands.

The congregation's desire to beautify God's house and make it more inviting brought about three major changes this past year under the direction of the present pastor, the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow. The outside is now covered with vinyl siding accentuated by the colored windows which were made and installed by the members of the church. A church steeple was also added.

A special dedication service was held on November 1. Not only were the physical improvements dedicated to God, but the members themselves rededicated their lives to the service of the Lord. May God continue to bless this church is the prayer of its people.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet

on Saturday, November 28, 1981, with Little Rock Church, Wilson County. The host pastor, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes, and the Union extend a cordial welcome to everyone. The Rev. Royster Martin will preach the Union message.

Executive Committee of Sunday School Convention Meets

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention met for its regular business session on Monday, October 19, at 7 p.m., at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Kinston, North Carolina. The following members were present: A. Stanley Jenkins, M. Chris Singleton, W. Milton Wiggs, Elwood Hill, C. H. Overman, Joe Crumpler, Frank Grubbs, H. Adrian Grubbs, and Donald E. Fader, serving as proxy for Marvin R. Waters.

The main topic of discussion concerned the arrangements for the 1982 session of the convention. Tentative plans are for an April meeting and the location of the meeting has not been confirmed. Watch future issues of *The Free Will Baptist* for further details about this meeting.

Piney Grove Church to Host Albemarle Meetings

Piney Grove Church, Route 1, Roper, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting and League Convention. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING
OPENING SESSION
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones
10:00—Devotions, Joe Griffith
10:10—Welcome, Whit Swain
—Response, the Rev. Robert May
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time
BUSINESS SESSION
10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via literature
—Report of Press, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved
MORNING WORSHIP
11:00—Hymn
11:20—Special Music
11:25—Message, Host Church
—Adjournment and Lunch, the Rev. Bill Gaylord
LEAGUE CONVENTION
7:30—Devotion, Miss Patricia Jones
7:40—President's Message, Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

First Union of Western Conference SS Convention To Meet

The Sunday School Convention of the First Union of the Western Conference will meet with Little Rock Church, Lucama, Saturday, November 28, 1981, at 2 p.m. The convention will be held after the union meeting.

SCHEDULED PROGRAM
2:00—Congregational Singing
—Prayer, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes
—Welcome, the Host Superintendent
—Response, Franklin Lane
—Devotion, Cathy Creech
—Special Music, Cathy Creech
—Secretary's Report,
—Eula Johnson
—Business Session
—Treasurer's Report, Durwood Jones
—Report from Field Workers
—Report from Denominational Enterprises
—Recognition of Sunday School Officers
—Closing Hymn
—Benediction, the Rev. Lloyd Hargis



CHURCH AVAILABLE

Rock Springs Church, Western Conference, located one mile west of Bailey, is in need of a full-time pastor. Any interested person should contact Charles Brown, 235-3516 or Keith Whitley, 235-4069.

News from the

HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR JULY 1, 1981, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1981

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle Union Meeting	$ 4.00
Cape Colony	20.00
Free Union (Pinetown)	2.00
Free Union (Belhaven)	15.00
Hickory Chapel	174.25
Mount Zion (Roper)	100.00
Mount Tabor	75.00
Plymouth, First	50.00
Saint Paul	88.52
Shiloh	50.00
Sidney	5.00
Union Chapel	209.57
Total	$ 793.34

CAPE FEAR

Bethel (Johnston County)	$ 25.00
Catalpa Mission	56.13
Cape Fear Conference	36.58
Casey's Chapel	50.00
Daly's Chapel	125.00
Eastover Mission	25.00
Goldsboro, First	542.00
Haymount Mission	464.87
Johnston Union	116.00
Lee's Chapel	250.00
Mount Olive	10.00
Palmer Memorial	109.67
Powhatan	100.47
Riverside	200.00
Saint Mary's Grove	75.00
Shady Grove	53.50
Smithfield, First	10.00
Tee's Chapel	455.00
Victory Mission	25.32
Wooten's Chapel	97.11
Yelverton Grove	100.00
Total	$ 2,926.65

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 10.00
Ayden	225.00
Bethany	92.02
Black Jack	56.20
Conference Mission Board	450.00
Daniels Chapel	446.00
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	40.83
Free Union (Greene County)	17.00
Friendship (Greene County)	459.57
Greenville, First	200.00
Grimsley	175.00
Harrell's Chapel	175.00
Hickory Grove	7.56
Howell Swamp	50.00
Hugo	317.90
Hull Road	175.00
King's Cross Roads	118.34
LaGrange	189.00
Little Creek (Greene County)	205.50
Marlboro	75.00
Ormondsville	250.00
Otter's Creek	101.71
Owens Chapel	100.00
Peace	15.00
Piney Grove (Beaufort County)	85.00
Piney Grove (Pitt County)	125.00
Reedy Branch	100.00
Roanoke Rapids, First	15.75
Rocky Mount Mission	4.56
Rocky Mount, First	150.00
Rose Hill	310.00
Rose of Sharon	100.00
Saratoga	100.00
Second Union Meeting	13.34
Second Union Sunday School Convention (in memory of Randolph Harris)	50.00
Spring Branch	150.00
Sweet Gum Grove	15.00
Tarboro, First	375.00
Walnut Creek	100.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston, First	133.09
Wilson, First	195.50
Winterville	387.29
Total	$ 6,396.16

EASTERN

Arapahoe	$ 134.25
Antioch	100.00
Bethel	20.00
Bridgeton	66.00
Christian Chapel	214.00
Core Creek	185.00
Crab Point	65.32
Croatan	45.00
Davis	187.92
Deep Run	20.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Edwards Chapel	10.00
Faith (Morehead City)	100.00
Faith Mission	15.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	20.00
Fifth Union Meeting	25.00
Folkstone	10.00
Friendship (Jones County)	50.00
Gray Branch	320.00
Holly Springs (Newport)	257.96
Indian Springs	15.00
Jackson Heights	56.49
Juniper Chapel	382.56
Kinston, First	25.00
Lanier's Chapel	25.00
Macedonia	25.00
May's Chapel	115.00
Moseley's Creek	200.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	50.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	25.00
New Haven	152.00
Northeast	203.90
Oriental	10.00
Otway	25.00
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrims Rest	50.00
Rock of Zion	126.00
Rooty Branch	45.00
Russell's Creek	5.00
Sandy Plain	246.00
St. Mary's (New Bern)	311.00
Saints Delight	350.00
Smith's New Home	20.00
Sneads Ferry	50.00
Snow Hill	205.00
Sound View	33.61
Spring Hope	50.00
Third Union District	21.66
Verona	100.00
Wardens Grove	87.59
Warsaw	25.00
Westside	361.00
Whaley's Chapel	195.00
White Oak Grove	117.00
Wintergreen	3.00
Total	$ 5,642.26

INDIVIDUALS

Aycock, Ralph	$ 100.00
Baker, Fred	30.00
Benson, Robert	1.00
Bishop, R. A.	5.00
Blackwell, Frank	10.00
Boltery, Frankie	1.00
Boykin, Fred	20.00
Bullon, Louise	1.00
Carroway, Ernest B.	5.00
Coates, Donald	20.00
Daughtry, Elma L.	5.00
Davis, Debbie	.50
Dew, Albstee	1.00
Duffy, Michael	1.00
Ellis, Lloyd	2.00
Elzar, Anna	1.00
Forbes, Bishop	5.00
Forehand, Ken	5.00
Fowler, Edna	10.00
Gwinn, Corine	2.00
Hall, Kenneth	1.00
Harrison, Ray	10.00
Heath, Roger	2.00
Hobgood, Estelle	5.00
Houston, Billy	5.00
Hunt, James B.	50.00
Jenkins, Stanley	2.00
Kennedy, Arthur	10.00
Kennedy, Percy	75.00
Latham, Amada	1.00
Little, Lizzie	1.00
Littleton, William	50.00
Love, Frank	5.00
Lucas, James C.	5.00
Manning, Elza	10.00
May, Robert M.	2.00
Mortez, Anna	5.00
Morris, Deanye	6.00
Norris, Evelyn	1.00
Nowell, Billy	20.00
Owens, Blanche	1.00

Pait, Frank	1.00
Phipps, Dot	2.00
Pierce, Mae	1.00
Pipkin, Kathleen	10.00
Price, T. P.	1.00
Price, Mozelle	10.00
Rhodes, Walter	25.00
Riley, Dianne	25.00
Sasser, R. T.	25.00
Sasser, Ada	25.00
Sellers, Robert L.	15.00
Smith, S. A.	100.00
Sprouse, Lewis	50.00
Strickland, Elton	1.00
Sumner, Faye	1.00
Sumner, Ralph	10.00
Taylor, Wayne	2.00
Thornton, Edward	5.00
Tripp, Peggy	5.00
Vobtmann, Gunwas	1.00
Watson, Glenn	5.00
Walston, Margaret	1.00
Webb, Robert	1.00
Williams, Evelyn	5.00
Wright, Peggy	15.00
Wood, Cynthia	5.00
Total	$ 839.50

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$ 464.75
Cypress Creek	48.75
Emerson	200.00
Freedom Mission	458.25
Mount Calvary	37.50
Oak Grove (Bladenboro)	369.95
Total	$ 1,579.20

PIEDMONT

Advance Mission	$ 35.39
East Rockingham	526.80
Heritage Mission	111.43
High Point	107.21
Highland Pines	220.00
Hopewell (Hamlet)	134.00
Love Gospel	50.00
Sweet Haven	20.00
Total	$ 1,204.83

WESTERN

Agape Mission	$ 100.00
Calvary	25.00
Durham, First	80.00
Elwood Lane	16.88
Everett Chapel	2,245.34
Fellowship (Wilson)	38.00
First Union	85.00
Fishers of Men	50.00
Flood's Chapel	12.00
Fremont Chapel	127.50
Free Union (Nash County)	23.60
Free Spirit	15.00
Friendship (Johnston County)	228.00
Kenly	71.70
Little Rock	254.25
Living Waters	150.00
Marsh Swamp	119.81
Milbournie	50.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	82.67
Mount Zion (Wilson County)	10.00
Northern	1,589.00
Oak Grove (Elm City)	83.82
People's Chapel	55.00
Piney Grove (Kenly)	81.25
Pleasant Grove (Pikeville)	500.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Pleasant Plain	20.00
Rains Cross Roads	22.50
Rock Springs	20.00
St. Mary's (Kenly)	225.00
Sherron Acres	200.00
Spring Hill	300.00
Stancil's Chapel	47.00
Stoney Creek	10.00
Stony Hill	150.00
Trinity	100.00
Unity (Wilson)	200.00
Union Grove	125.00
Unity (Durham)	50.00
Watson's Grove	25.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Total	$ 7,713.32

OTHERS

North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention	$ 19.24
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Christian Service Fund	66.74
Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference	83.50
Mission Rally Cash Offerings	414.09
Total	$ 583.57
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	$27,678.83

Respectfully submitted,
Taylor Hill
Executive Director/Treasurer

News from the

Retirement Homes

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS OCTOBER 1981 $546.25

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Johnston Union	$165.00
Robert's Grove	50.00
Total	$215.00

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Hugo	$ 25.00
Hull Road	100.00
Tarboro, First	75.00
Total	$200.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Piney Grove	$ 56.25
Pleasant Hill	50.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Total	$131.25

"THE BEGINNING AND THE END"

Part Four

by Graham Faucette

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last" (Revelation 22:13).

CHRIST IS THE A AND THE Z IN HEAVEN

Christ, who is the Alpha and the Omega, will be the most honored being in Heaven. He will be known as the world's liberator. The first soul that enters Heaven will look for Jesus and so will the last one. All the population of that land will look for Him as soon as they get to their eternal home. They will follow Him all over that land; and they will be with Him forever and ever.

The name of Jesus will be on all the banners that will ever wave in Heaven. His name will be exalted in all the songs performed; at His feet will all the doxologies be sung. Around His throne will be the chief glories. Wherever the Lamb of God goes, His flock will be found.

On down through the years of eternity, the name of Jesus will be exalted above all others. But how about those that are lost and wandering in sin? This One, Jesus, means nothing to them. Without Christ, what will their eternity be? What about their death hour? What about their judgment? What about eternity if they continue to reject this One? The Bible tells us that there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. You must have Jesus or be separated from God forever. There is only one way to escape eternal damnation—that is by turning to God, our creator and sustainer, our loving Father. He provided a way whereby we might be saved; we can be freed from the bondages of sin.

Christ can make us free; He can make **you** free and free indeed. His cry today is: "Come unto Me, all that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

W. H. LAUGHINGHOUSE FAMILY VISITS COLLEGE



Three children of the late W. H. Laughinghouse (1853-1935) are shown during a recent visit to Mount Olive College. Left to right, College President W. Burkette Raper; Mrs. Daisy Laughinghouse Carroll of Greenville; Mrs. Wesley Laughinghouse Turnage of Farmville; and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse R. Laughinghouse of Greenville.

W. H. LAUGHINGHOUSE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT AT MOC

The family of the late W. H. Laughinghouse is establishing a Scholarship Endowment at Mount Olive College. The scholarship is a memorial to Mr. Laughinghouse, who served as a Free Will Baptist minister for fifty-seven years, 1877-1935.

Mrs. Daisy L. Carroll of Rose Hill Church, remembers her father as a man "characterized by humility and cooperation. In this spirit he served on many committees and boards in the Central Conference and the State Convention of North Carolina. He was always deeply interested in the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Middlesex and education for young ministers," she wrote.

Another daughter, Mrs. Wesley Turnage of Farmville, recalls that her father did not have the privilege of a formal education but was taught to read and write by his wife, Pamela, after they were married. After learning to read, his prime interest was the Bible. Mrs. Turnage remembers that he would carry his Bible to the field and when he took time to rest, he would take out his Bible.

$17.05 for Two Years of Service

Among the pastorates of Mr. Laughinghouse were the First Church of Greenville, which he helped to organize, and his home church of Rose Hill in Pitt County, North Carolina, where he served for twenty-three years.

Other churches served by Mr. Laughinghouse included Black Jack, Marlboro, Hickory Grove, Pleasant Hill, Howell Swamp, and Macedonia. Of special interest is his pastorate at Black Jack Church, 1894-1896, during which it is recorded that he received seventy-three (73) new members and a total of $17.05 for his two years of service.

A Living Memorial

Mr. Laughinghouse was known and respected throughout Pitt County not only as a minister but as a public-spirited citizen. The late Judge F. M. Wooten, in a published obituary of Mr. Laughinghouse, wrote:

> "No more admirable monument could be erected to his life and service of this good man than the enlargement by us who survive him the benefits which he devoted his life to bring to us and all his fellow beings. To ignore his accomplishments and permit them to die out of the minds and hearts of the people of Pitt, our County, would be a sign of ingratitude."

The purpose of the Laughinghouse Scholarship Endowment is to both perpetuate his memory and to help prepare young people for Christian service. Gifts to the scholarship will be invested and each year the earnings will be used as a scholarship for worthy students attending Mount Olive College.

At its annual reunion in September, the Laughinghouse Family adopted the Scholarship Endowment as a project, but the Fund is also open to individuals and churches who

would like to express their appreciation for the life and services of Mr. Laughinghouse. Gifts for this purpose are tax deductible and may be sent to Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, and designated for "The W. H. Laughinghouse Scholarship Endowment."

DIANNE RILEY TO SPEAK

Dianne Riley, associate director of admissions, will be guest speaker at Ormondsville Church on Youth Sunday, November 29, at 11 a.m. The topic of her address will be "Building a Better Way."

During her visit, Mrs. Riley will also teach the Senior Sunday School Class. The pastor of Ormondsville Church is the Rev. Jack Mayo.

THE "MESSIAH" TO BE PERFORMED

The Mount Olive College and Community Chorus will perform Handel's "Messiah" on December 8, at 8 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Mount Olive.

The chorus will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra of twelve musicians, many of whom have been associated with the North Carolina Symphony.

Carolyn M. Knox, professor of music at Mount Olive College, will be the conductor.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Harry G. Brown announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He is also available for evangelistic meetings. He may be contacted by writing him at 3308 Hope Valley Road, Durham, North Carolina 27707; or by phone, 477-6235 or 489-8584.

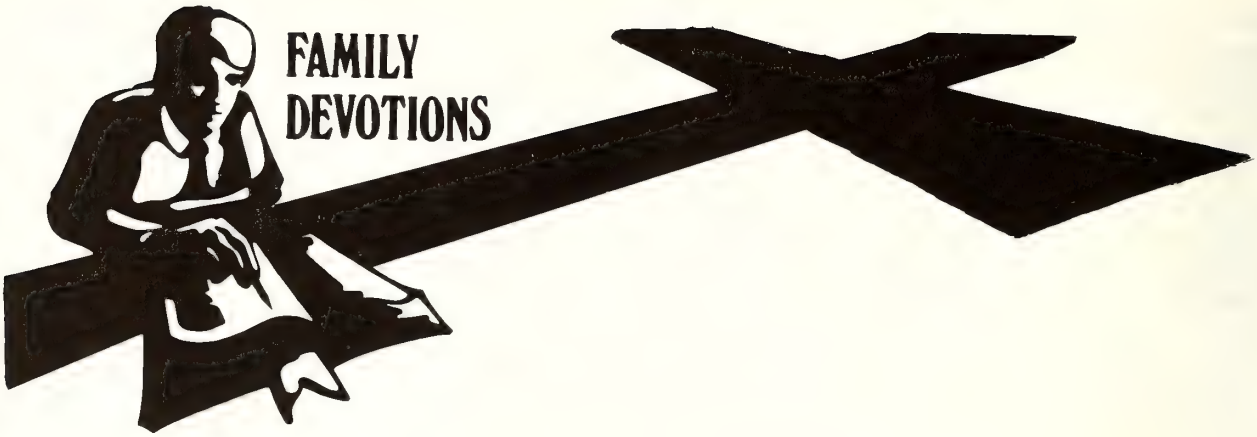
Praise
Praise
Praise

Praise

to God, immortal praise,
For the love that crowns our days.
Bounteous source of every joy,
Let thy praise our tongues employ.
All to thee, our God, we owe,
Source whence all our blessings flow.

—Anna Laetitia Barbauld

Praise
Praise
Praise
Praise
Praise



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Psalm 16

GLUM AND GROUCHY OR—

As an English nobleman mingled with guests at his country estate, he met an attractive but not strikingly beautiful woman. After they exchanged greetings, he said to her, "Would you come and let my roses see you?"

Later a friend asked, "Why were you so interested in that lady?"

He replied, "She was charming."

The friend asked, "But what makes her charming?"

He replied, "She made life seem more joyful and worthwhile."

Shouldn't this be the fixed purpose of each one of God's children?

PRAYER THOUGHT

How repellent is a glum, grouchy Christian!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—John 16

NURSING MISERIES

As a businessman sat at a table in a railroad dining car, a husband and his wife entered and asked, "May we sit with you at your table?"

"Certainly," the businessman replied.

When the meal was served, the wife grumblingly found fault with each item placed before her. It was either too hot or too cold; too overdone or underdone.

Sensing the husband's embarrassment, the friendly businessman asked, "What is your business?"

"I'm a manufacturer," he replied, adding, "my wife is a manufacturer, too."

"That's interesting! And what does she manufacture?" the man queried.

The husband quipped, "She manufactures misery for herself and for everybody else!"

Some people seem to find great pleasure in nursing their miseries. They aren't happy unless they are miserable.

We owe it to ourselves and others to be contagiously cheerful.

PRAYER THOUGHT

To each one of God's children is given the command: "Be of good cheer . . ." (John 16:33).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Psalm 18

CAPABLE OF LOVING GOD

One of God's children, who had very little of this world's goods, said, "I rejoice in being exactly what I am—a creature capable of loving God. I look for a while out of my window and gaze at the moon and the stars, the work of God's almighty hand. I think of the grandeur of the universe and think myself one of the happiest beings in it!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How great and enduring is the joy of God's children as they daily live for the Saviour and are sustained by His never-failing promise: "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore . . ." (Psalm 16:11).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Philippians 4

GLUM, GRUMPY, AND GROUCHY

Emmett Kelly Jr., the famous clown called the "Crown Prince of Pantomime," never smiled. He elicited laughter without saying a word. His sad face, big red nose and huge shoes were enough to create smiles.

It is an open secret that behind his unsmiling mask, Kelly laughed harder than the people laughing at his antics. Said he, "Laughter is one of God's greatest gifts to the world. It is really the answer to most of our problems. There is never enough laughter. Maybe, the infinite Being—God—is using me to help start smiles around the world. I believe in America with all my hidden heart. Here, we are free to smile. Here, our Maker makes room for laughter!"

Often there is too much gloom and defeatism among God's children. Glum, grumpy, grouchy people are repellent. We need more joyous, radiant Christians.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice (Philippians 4:4).

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Luke 10:25-37

JOY IS ELUSIVE

On a murky Monday morning in Chicago, the sky was leaden. The rain descended in a dismal drizzle outside as a minister entered the Psychopathic Court to appear on behalf of a mental patient.

The functionaries and political hangers-on in the court greeted each other gloomily.

How different it was with the minister. His heart was filled with joy as he spoke comfortingly to a number of burdened, bothered people whose loved ones were to be committed to a mental institution, commending them to the Mender of broken things. Jesus came long ago to "give beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness" (Isaiah 61:3).

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we go out in quest of joy, it will elude us. If we go out to impart joy, we will find it.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Colossians 3

WHERE FOUND

Where is joy found? *In wealth?* No. Jay Gould, a multimillionaire, said remorsefully when dying, "I suppose I am the wretchedest wretch that ever lived."

In sinful pleasure? No. Like Solomon, Lord Byron could say, "And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them. I withheld not my heart from any joy" (Ecclesiastes 2:10). On his 33rd birthday, Lord Byron sadly lamented,

On life's road so grim and dirty,
I have dragged to three and thirty,
What have these years brought to me?
Nothing but thirty-three.

In worldly fame? No. Lord Beaconsfield enjoyed worldly fame, yet he wrote, "Youth is a mistake; manhood a struggle; old age a regret!"

How quickly does a Who's Who become a Who Was! How ephemeral is earthly glory: "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass . . ." (1 Peter 1:24).

Where then may abiding joy be found? In Christ alone: "Whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he" (Proverbs 16:20).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you (John 16:22).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 1:1-12

"GOD IS NOT BURNING UP"

As a Christian Vietnamese stood by his burning home, with the flames lighting up his face, he praised God.

One asked, "How can you praise your God when everything in your home is burning to the ground?"

He replied, "But my God is not burning up!"

In the midst of a world aflame, God lives. He is still "within the shadows, keeping watch above His own!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

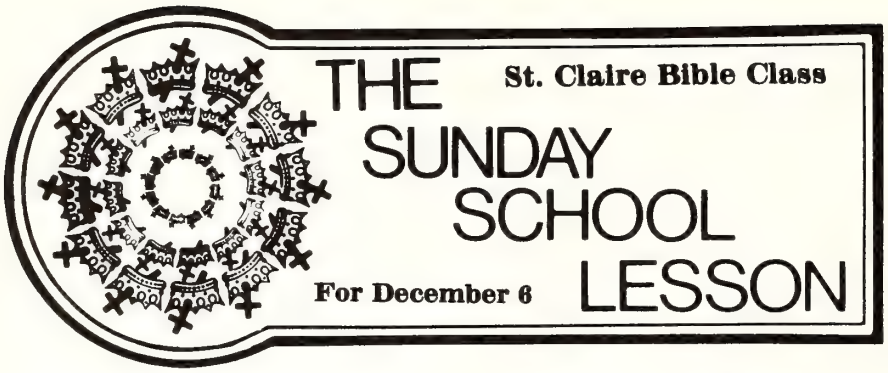
We are finite, but God is infinite: "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he (God) doeth according to his will . . . and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?" (Daniel 4:35).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

IF GOD FORGOT THE WORLD FOR JUST ONE DAY

Then little children would not laugh and play;
Birds would not in the leafy woodlands sing,
And roses would not beautify the spring.
No gentle showers throughout the summer long,
No rising sun, no moon to give its light,
No placid lake reflect the stars of night.
No friend to help us on the toilsome road,
No one to help us bear the heavy load.
No light to shine upon the pilgrim way,
No one to care, or wipe the tear away.
No listening ear to hear the lost one call,
No eye to see the righteous battler fall.
No balm of Gilead to dull the throbbing pain,
No one to comfort and the heart sustain.
Millions would die in unforgiven sin,
With none to bring the lost and straying in;
Yea, this great universe would melt away
If God forgot the world for just one day.

—Selected



JESUS AS SON OF GOD

Lesson Text: Mark 1:1, 4-11; 9:2-8
Memory Verse: Matthew 14:33

I. INTRODUCTION

The prophets had been silent for four hundred years, and the people had been waiting for the Messiah to come. But some people knew that the Son of God had been born. Zechariah and Elisabeth knew; they also knew that their son John would be a special messenger related to the Messiah. Elisabeth knew that the child within Mary was the Lord (Luke 1:43).

Mary knew because an angel had declared that the child she would bear would be conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph knew because when he was reluctant to marry Mary an angel assured him that Mary's baby would save the people from their sins.

The shepherds knew because the angels had appeared to them and told them that the Saviour was born in Bethlehem. The wise men knew and worshiped Him as a king. Herod was convinced, for he tried to destroy Him; he was afraid the child would be a new king.

John the Baptist knew that the Messiah had been born, for he knew he was to be His forerunner (John 1:23). God sent him to baptize and told him how the Messiah would be identified (v. 33). And when that happened, John was quick to proclaim, "This is the Son of God" (v. 34).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It has generally been accepted that the writer of the Gospel of Mark is the John Mark who was associated with Paul and Barnabas in the Book of Acts. Although objections have been raised to this, there seems to be little reason to doubt that he was its author.

B. Although Mark is the shortest of the four Gospels, its scope and purpose are broad. In it, Jesus is seen as the mighty Worker, the Servant. The key verse of the book is 10:45: "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister . . . ." The Holy Spirit who inspired this book as He did all Scripture felt that this picture of Jesus would make the greatest appeal to the Romans to whom Mark was especially writing.

C. However, we must not get the idea that Mark does not show that the Servant is also the mighty God (see Isaiah 9:6). Mark consistently asserts that Jesus was God incarnate.

D. Since the printed Scripture for today is taken from the first chapter of this gospel, we suggest that you study the entire chapter carefully.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. For the next twenty weeks we are going to be involved in a study of the person and work of Jesus. Our goal is that we might gain a clearer understanding and deeper appreciation of the person, the faith, and the work of Jesus, with the hope that we may be motivated to respond to Him in deepening faith and to live more in keeping with His teachings and example.

B. As for this present quarter, the first seven lessons form Unit I, "The Person of Jesus," focusing upon certain titles of Jesus such as Son of God, Son of Man, Messiah, Saviour, and the like. The other six lessons in this quarter deal with the faith of Jesus, references to which we shall make when we come to them.

C. Our lesson today on Jesus as the Son of God should renew our faith in the indisputable fact that He is indeed God's Son, and should enable us to say with greater conviction, "Of a truth thou art the Son of God," as did His disciples.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Deity of Christ—When we refer to the Deity of Christ, we mean that He was God manifest in human flesh. Use these proofs: His virgin birth, His virtuous life, His marvelous ministry, His vicarious death, and His victorious Resurrection.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

COMING EVENTS

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 26—Thanksgiving Day

November 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern Smithfield, Wilson, ar Kinston

November 29—Mount Olive College Day in local churches

He most lives who lives for others.

ON THANKFUL GIVING

(Continued from Page 5)

But even if Heaven kept no record, the joy of doing something kind, something generous, is in the doing. In the knowing that good works are better than evil works. That love—even when it tears you to pieces—is better than aloofness. That the shared loaf somehow becomes more nourishing than the loaf unshared.

There is also the satisfaction of knowing that, because of what one does, blind who would not otherwise see receive sight, lame who would not walk can walk, deaf who would not hear can hear, starving who would have died are alive, homeless who would be unsheltered are housed, naked who would be cold are clothed, and the Good News is preached to someone who would never have heard.

Giving is also a gift to the giver. Cheerfully (the word in the Bible literally means "hilariously") done, it brings us close to the heart of God.

And that's a good feeling.—Stan Mooneyham

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (November, 1981).

Mrs. Minnie Chandler Has Surgery

Mrs. Minnie Chandler, widow of the late Rev. A. B. Chandler and an employee at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, underwent surgery Thursday morning, November 19, for the removal of nodes from her lymph glands. Her condition is reported to be good; and the Rev. C. L. Patrick, who was at the hospital during the time of surgery, said she returned to her room "with a smile on her face"—how characteristic!

Mrs. Chandler is in Room N-216 at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Greenville, North Carolina; her phone number is (919) 757-4237. She asks that everyone remember her in his prayers.

(Mrs. Chandler, we are praying for you. Hurry up and get well 'cause we miss you terribly at the Press; and we love you.)

Catching Men

I sometimes hear of persons getting very angry after a gospel sermon, and I say to myself, "I am not sorry for it." Sometimes when we are fishing, the fish gets the hook into his mouth and he pulls hard at the line. If he were dead, he would not; but he is a live fish, worth the getting; and though he runs away for a while with the hook in his jaws, he cannot escape. His very wiggling and his anger show that he has got the hook and the hook has got him. Have the landing net ready; we shall land him by and by; and he will belong to Christ.

—*Charles Spurgeon*

Wilson Bible and Bookstore To Host an Autograph Party Saturday, November 28 for Joyce Proctor Beaman



The author of numerous magazine articles, poems, and three popular books, Joyce Proctor Beaman speaks directly to her readers about internal beauty, external beauty, and eternal beauty in her latest release, *You Are Beautiful: You Really Are.*

You Are Beautiful: You Really Are ($7.95) is a genuine, heart-to-heart effort in inspiring a positive self-image, confidence, and joy in living—with oneself, with others, and with God. Have Mrs. Beaman autograph your copy of this book November 28!



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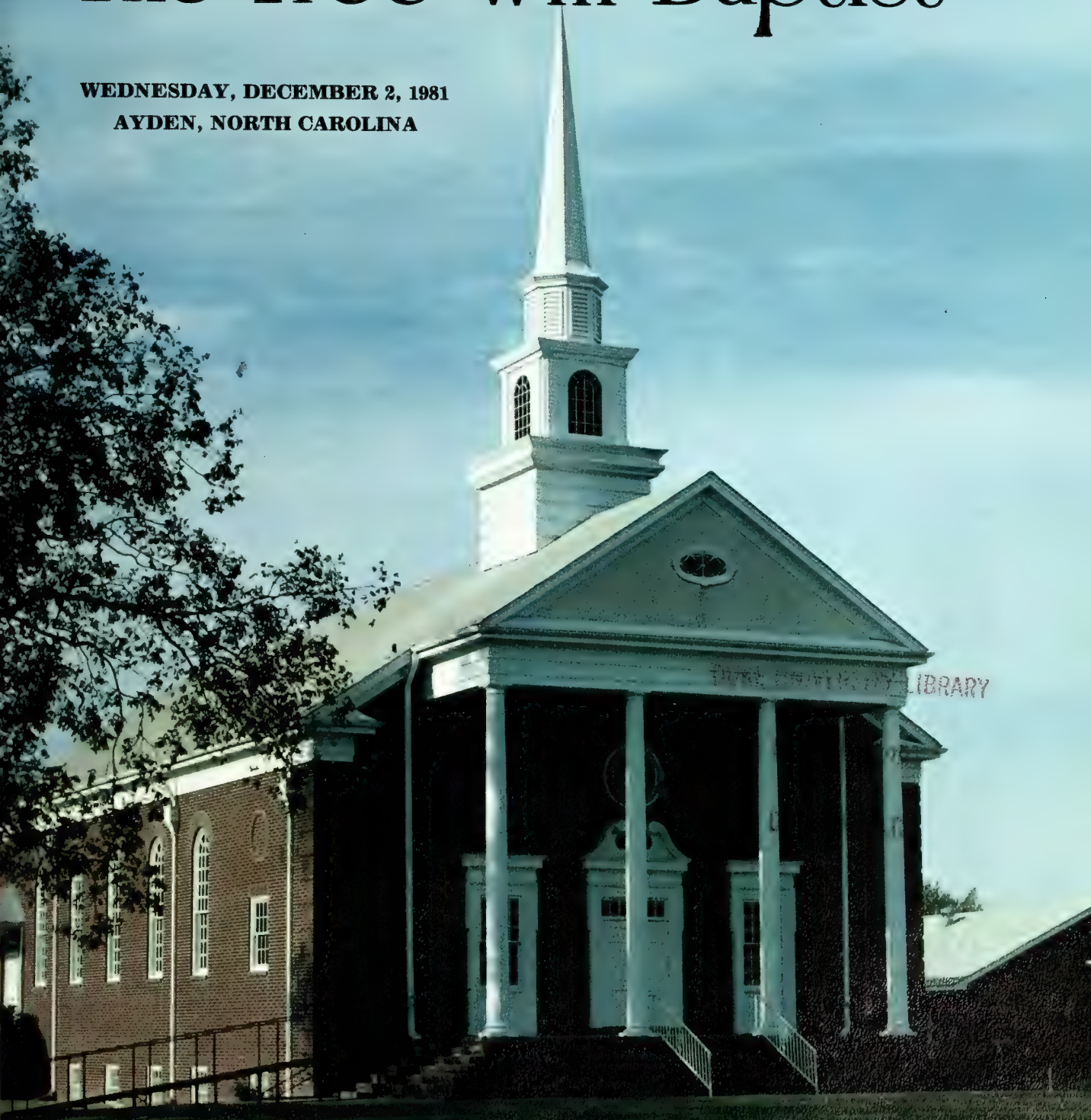
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1981
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



STONEY CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Reflections on Life

Life is not a trip that has been carefully planned by some travel agency with every reservation made and all events carefully scheduled. On the contrary, it is more like a journey taken on our own recognizance with many spontaneous side trips and quite a few wrong turns. Sometimes we discover that we are traveling with our "maps" upside down; often, though, we like the new places we find so well we never go on to our original destination.

Like the Children of Israel, we have some idea where we want to arrive, but we don't know when we'll get there—and in reality, we'd probably just as soon turn back. You see, our experience of God, and life in general, is frequently different from what we expect. About the time our experiences verify something we've believed in our hearts and heads or learned in Sunday school, something happens to send us back to the drawing board. But we have no need for self-pity. The joy of our pilgrimage is making the trip—detours and all.

While trekking to the Promised Land, the Israelites were lost in the wilderness, attacked by enemies, guilty of numerous transgressions, and victims of their own lack of faith. In many ways, they remind us of ourselves, for they, too, were real people. What really made them special was that God was with them. (Let us never forget that we are real people also; and God is with us.)

Perhaps life would be much easier if we had a copy of the script (but that would also make it boring and a bit dreadful). Since we don't, we are like amateur carpenters building a life—first we build, then we **learn** how. (**Learn** may not be the appropriate term: we do learn some things, but more often than not, we acquire experience and that is not the same as knowing. Experience teaches us what mistakes we have made in the past; it doesn't tell us which ones we are going to make in the future.) Many of us need to realize that "life is not an apology; it is a life" (Thoreau); and "happy are those who accept life and their own limitations. They will find more in life than anybody" (J. B. Phillips). Sometimes we learn when it is too late, but often we do learn just in the nick of time.

The Andersons have two daughters and a son, Bret (who happens to be adopted). Bret is a wide-eyed, three-year-old; but since he is interracial, he was once made an outsider, an intruder. His adopted family loves him, but this was not always the case. You see, his parents and sisters adored him; it was his paternal grandfather who could not accept the lad. Prejudice would not let him. The irony of the situation is that the gentleman had always wanted a grandson; he wanted a boy with whom he could fish and walk through the woods, finding treasures all the while. (His son had never liked to fish. Baiting hooks, bathing worms and sitting on the side of a pond for hours while ants crawled on him was never his idea of fun.) The estrangement was even formalized, for one day the grandmother told her son, "Tom, we think it better if Bret doesn't come to our house for a while." Many months passed before

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The Free Will Baptis

Cover Photo by Scott Sowers

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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History of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church

Goldsboro, NC

compiled by Lillie Mae Sasser

STONEY Creek Church, formerly known as Stoney Hill Church, was organized around 1860. The old store building torn down in 1962 across the road in front of the church once stood where our old sanctuary is located and served as a school and church combination. It is thought by old residents that the Rev. Daniel Davis and the Rev. Sharrod Hamilton were the organizers and served as early pastors. Services were held only in the daytime as there were no lighting facilities.

There was a church building on the hill opposite Crumpler Cemetery known as Ironside Baptist. Elder Elias Holland was the pastor, but services lasted only a short while. Around 1880 the framing of this old building was moved to a strip of land where the old sanctuary now stands, given by Exum and Martha Howell, and was joined to an old school building and a one-room building which was used as their sanctuary. Old kerosene reflector lights were installed enabling them to have night services. This building is still a part of the old sanctuary and parts of it are put together with wooden pegs.

If records were kept prior to 1908, we are not able to find them. The information used was given by Mrs. Sallie Montague who was 95 years old in 1955, when a church member helped obtain this information.

In 1908 the church had a membership of 131. With this growth in number, additional room was needed. A strip of land was bought across the back of the building forming wings at a cost of $360. Up to this time preachers had not received pay for their services so 17 members pledged the sum of $19.50 for Elder George Davis, the assistant pastor. The Rev. C. E. Orton was pastor and he was slipped a few dollars, with some handshakes. Some of the older pastors were: C. D. Howell, Troy Phillips, Jonathan Mozingo, Will Howell, J. W. Valentine, Pat Lucas, Richard Pierce, Tyler Johnson, and Jim Worley. In 1909 a division arose in the denomination and a group pulled out and built its own church. This is now Free Chapel Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church.

The name of our church was changed to Stoney Creek in 1926 during the pastorate of the Rev. A. A. Wells. A Delco light system was installed which made a great improvement in the lighting system.

Our first homecoming day was observed on the fourth Sunday in October 1938 with the Rev. C. E. Orton as guest speaker; the old choir of his pastorate (forty years before) under direction of Grover Lancaster and W. B. Howell furnished special singing of the old hymns.

In 1941, during the pastorate of the Rev. C. F. Bowen, our first church budget was adopted in the amount of $360. This was raised by twelve captains, one for each month, at $30 each. In this budget, all phases of the denominational enterprises were included.

In 1947, during the pastorate of the Rev. Clifton Rice, the church building was remodeled, Sunday school classrooms were built in a T-shape on the back part of the old sanctuary. In 1949, half-time services began. The church budget was raised by bringing tithes and offerings on homecoming Sunday in October of each year. The vestibule was built in 1952. After a strip of land was given by Mrs. Cora Ray, the church building was moved back to allow room for this addition.

The need for an educational building was realized and work began in 1958. The structure was completed in 1959 at a cost of $10,300. This building was dedicated July 16, 1961, debt free, by the Rev. J. A. Evans, then of Bryan, Texas. After Mr. Evans resigned on August 23, 1959, to go to Texas, Stoney Creek awoke to the need of full-time service. At a regular business meeting January 16, 1960, the pulpit committee was authorized to secure a full-time pastor. The Rev. Joseph Ingram was the first full-time pastor of our church. Plans were started May 14, 1961, to build a parsonage and the building was completed in August of that same year.

Since that time many changes have been made, and the Lord has blessed us spiritually as well as materially. Things have been accomplished never dreamed of or thought possible. Perhaps we can credit some of our progress to a vote of confidence on November 6, 1962, at a called business meeting of the church at the request of some of our younger

(Turn the Page)

members. The Rev. Earl Glenn spoke to us and our church voted unanimously to support the North Carolina State Convention. A spirit of unity and cooperation prevailed among us.

A lot was purchased from Mrs. Cora Ray for $1,202 to erect a new sanctuary. Groundbreaking services for a new building were held on Sunday, December 27, 1964. Work on the construction began in January 1965, and on October 10, 1965, we held our first service in the new church building.

After the resignation of Pastor Ingram, the Rev. Raymond Jones was secured July 23, 1967, and began his pastorate October 14, 1967. One of the outstanding accomplishments during his pastorate was completion of the new church building. This was done by placing the steeple on the church.

After the resignation of Pastor Jones, the Rev. David C. Hansley became our pastor. During his pastorate some outstanding accomplishments were made. Among them were adoption of the unified church budget system, purchase of a church bus, acquisition of choir robes for the youth choir, and appointment of a benevolence committee to look into the needs of the sick and shut-ins of our church.

The Lord became a champion over our needs and following the resignation of Pastor Hansley, the Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark came to Stoney Creek in August, 1971.

In the April 1972 business meeting the church voted to purchase tape recorders for the Laymen's League to tape the worship services for the shut-ins. This is still being done and has been a wonderful blessing to those unable to attend. Also, individual hearing phones were placed in the sanctuary for the benefit of those with hearing deficiencies.

Another outstanding achievement was our participation in the Mount Olive College matching scholarship program for Free Will Baptist students.

In 1975 a committee reported to the church recommending renovations to the old church building making it more suitable for Sunday school classes. This renovation was completed and now the Junior Sunday School Department is using this facility.

A former pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, followed Mr. Rivenbark as pastor.

As a church grows so do its needs. The Laymen's League provided various types of recreational equipment for our picnic area on the church grounds.

Mr. Bowen resigned in May 1978. In June 1978, the Board of Deacons asked that a rising vote of appreciation be given to the Rev. C. F. Bowen for his devoted leadership and understanding for the last three years as our beloved pastor. In July 1978 the Board of Deacons asked that a love offering be taken for Mr. Bowen as a token of appreciation for his dedication, leadership and service to Stoney Creek Church and to the Free Will Baptist denomination.

The Rev. Bobby Bazen was elected to serve as our next pastor. The beginning of a new pastorate brings new ideas and proposals. A new Sunday school class, "The Young Believers," was organized. The new year, 1979, began with other needs being presented. In the January business meeting provision for handicapped parking spaces was made.

Soon after the resignation of Pastor Bazen, the Board of Deacons was appointed as a pulpit committee. Even though the church faced another period of transition we rallied to the situation by prayer and supplication, relying on God's Word in Jeremiah 33:3. This promise came true at a called meeting on May 20, 1979, with the report of the pulpit committee that the Rev. Gary Bailey be recommended as the new pastor. Mr. Bailey began his pastoral duties on the second Sunday of July, 1979.

In the summer of 1979, the church pews were cushioned for the comfort of those worshiping. Also the tape ministry was enlarged by purchasing professional recorders and copiers. In early 1980 the Board of Deacons gave recommendations that additions and renovations be made to the parsonage. This recommendation was approved by the church and the work was done the following spring.

At the January 7, 1981, business meeting it was revealed that church membership was 381 and Sunday school membership was 256. In this meeting the church voted to accept a proposal that would inform our people of the work and needs of our six major enterprises. Once per year these enterprises would be featured in our worship services with a representative from that enterprise to speak if possible. On that day the entire offering would be designated for that enterprise. The money received in this special offering would be over and above all monies designated in the church budget.

Later in 1981 the church also voted to give $10,000 for the building of College Hall on the campus of Mount Olive College.

On October 18, 1981, we had our forty-fourth annual homecoming with perhaps the largest attendance ever.

The Lord has blessed and abundantly increased the efforts of our forefathers. At present we have three buildings on the church property valued in excess of $300,000 and a parsonage. There are five ordained ministers serving the Free Will Baptist church in North Carolina who have come out of Stoney Creek. Eternity alone will reveal what the Lord has in

(Continued on Page 15)

A STRANGE MINISTER

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

A certain church had a very strange minister. You can hardly imagine how upset the congregation was. Members complained, became angry, and finally quite a few left. The pastor was dismissed and had no other invitations elsewhere. But let me tell you exactly how it came about. A number of times, when committee meetings of the church were called, nearly all the committee members were present, except the pastor. As far as other members knew, he planned to be there also. The committee members waited and they decided to proceed with the meeting and schedule another meeting soon to confirm decisions they didn't want to decide without the complete committee.

The next day, when one of the committee members met the pastor, the pastor said that he had planned to be present, but during the day a friend of his had invited him to attend a community activity. Since he hadn't seen the friend for quite some time and he had never attended this particular program, he felt he should go. The committee could certainly carry on without him.

Several times this strange pastor failed to show up for prayer meeting. The services were clearly announced in the bulletin. One time he said he clear forgot it. One week he had even announced that he felt prayer meeting was important to the life of the church. But he didn't come. When the group gathered, they waited and waited. Although he wasn't in charge of the meeting, the group expected him to be present. Some wondered what happened. Others noted he had skipped several other times. Three persons became rather emotional about a pastor who didn't come to prayer meeting. Others, who were not at the prayer meeting, when they heard about it, were quite perturbed about a pastor unconcerned about prayer.

The next day, when some of the prayer group met the pastor, he glibly said he was planning to come, but had thought of a job he had to get done. "Wasn't much," he said, "but it kept bugging his wife." So he thought he'd stay home.

Then one Sunday evening there was a planned program at the church, and this strange minister never showed up. It's true that he wasn't moderating the service that night. Nor was he on the program. But he certainly should have been there. He had himself spoken on the brotherhood of believers and on the necessity of Christian fellowship—"so much the more as you see the day approaching."

The next day someone mentioned to this pastor that he was missed the night before. Had he forgotten the service or was someone in the family ill?

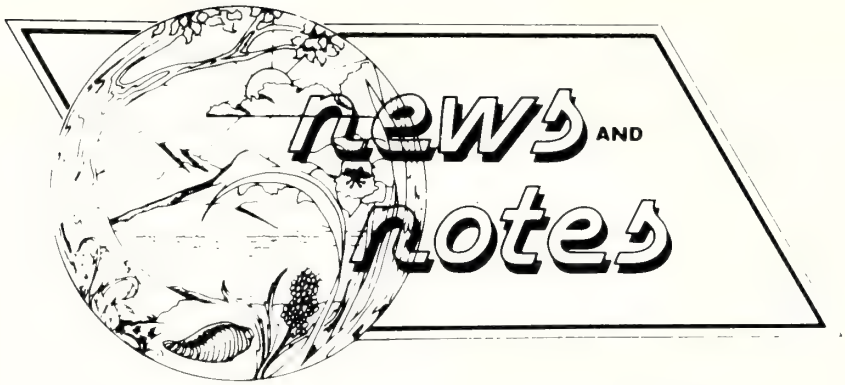
"No," he said, "I hadn't forgotten, and thank God we are all well. The fact is that for once the whole family was at home, so I decided I should take time out for the family. After all," he said, he "had spent two evenings that week in committee meetings, gone shopping another evening, and went bowling the night before." He felt it was necessary for the family to be all together. "Besides," he said, "I was really tired and probably wouldn't get much out of the service anyway."

Then one Sunday morning something else happened. The church was assembled. It was time for the service to begin. But no pastor showed up. Finally, ten minutes late, after the first songs and devotional should have been finished, the pastor arrived. The usher brought him to the front. He didn't give any explanation at all. That really bothered quite a few.

This became very serious when he was late more often than not. He actually came walking in many Sundays with the regular late-comers themselves. When approached about it, he said he guessed he just got into the habit of starting late and it was hard to kick the habit.

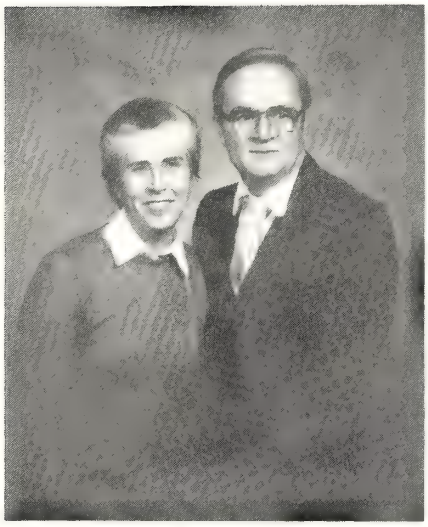
The real crisis came one Sunday when he didn't show up at all for the service. How could this be tolerated, especially when the people learned that he had decided, sort of on the spur of the moment, to go on a Sunday drive since the day was so nice and sunny? Also it was getting near the end of August. "Not many more nice Sundays left for a Sunday excursion," he said. Further, he felt not many people would really miss him, since he met quite a few of his members on the way to the lake while he was driving.

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MUCH PROGRESS EVIDENT AT BEAUFORT CHURCH

submitted by Mrs. Faye Perritt



The Rev. and Mrs. James H. Gurganus

Beaufort Church would like to share with you how the mission became a church where we rejoice in being a part of the family of God.

Members met in places from a living room to an old store to a renovated mobile home and finally to a church building.

The mission's first services were held in the old Free Will Baptist Church building, which is now a county office building. The mission met there from December 1977 until September 1978.

Services were then held in the living room of Mr. and Mrs. Swindell Taylor for four weeks.

The next move was to a store building belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Murphy.

Services continued in a mobile home for more than a year beginning in November 1979. The mobile home, which had burned, was donated by Tom Tunstall of Tunstall Mobile Homes of New Bern and reconstructed by members of Holly Springs Church, Newport. The sanctuary could seat 50 people.

We now proudly meet in a church building complete with a steeple. It was purchased from Welcome Home Church in Bettie. Services began the first week in April.

Pastors of the mission have been the Rev. Hubert Bennett, former pastor of a church in Enoree, South Carolina; and the Rev. Jerry Rowe, pastor of Holly Springs Church. Mr. James Gurganus was a lay minister until he was licensed as a minister January 3, 1979. He was ordained on May 27, 1980.

On August 4, 1981, the mission was organized into a church of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina by the Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference.

Membership has increased from five to forty-four.

On November 8, there were 84 in attendance for the morning worship service. This was the day of our second homecoming. Lunch was served on the grounds, followed by a singspiration presented by members and friends.

Mr. Gurganus resides in Newport and travels a round trip of 37 miles on Sunday to preach the morning worship service, the 5 p.m. evening service and Thursday mid-week service. He has a wife, four daughters and two granddaughters.

Mr. Gurganus holds down a full-time job as Branch Supervisor in the Avionics Division at the Naval Air Rework Facility, Cherry Point.

The church has been blessed by the faith and dedication of its members and pastor.

If you are ever in our area, we invite you to visit with us.

Piney Grove Church Recognized Pastor



The Rev. and Mrs. N. Bruce Barrow

The members of Piney Grove Church, Duplin County, honored their pastor, the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, on Sunday, September 20. The day marked Mr. Barrow's 50th anniversary in the ministry—a ministry that began in Chicago, Illinois, on the third Sunday of September, 1931. The congregation hosted a luncheon for their pastor after the morning worship service. They also presented him with a plaque.

After graduating from North Park Junior College, A & M College, and Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Mr. Barrow entered the pastorate and he has preached in a number of states.

During the years, Mr. Barrow has served Free Will Baptists in many ways. He has been Moderator of the National Association, the Texas State Convention, the North Carolina

State Convention (2 terms), and the Central Conference (2 terms). Mr. Barrow also worked at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex for a year and was manager of the Free Will Baptist Press for six years.

Pleasant Plain Church Announces Program

On December 6, at 7 p.m., the Jerry Taylor Family will present their Christmas program entitled "Lambs, Ladybugs, Angels, and Fireflies." The church is located on Route 2, Selma. The pastor, the Rev. Ernie Price, invites everyone to attend.

Stancil's Chapel Receives New Pastor



The Rev. James Lupton

The members of Stancil's Chapel Church, Route 2, Kenly, welcome its new pastor and his wife, the Rev. James Lupton and Eleanor Ruth Hartley Lupton. Mr. and Mrs. Lupton live in Pikeville, North Carolina, and have three children and seven grandchildren. Mr. Lupton began his pastorate at Stancil's Chapel on October 25.

Reedy Branch Church to Have Chrismon Program

The Willis Wilson Sunday School Class of Reedy Branch Church, Route 1, Winterville, will have a program featuring the lighting of the Chrismon Tree on December 6, at 7 p.m. The class has worked most of

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THE BOOK CORNER

by DeWayne Eakes

Wallis, Jim. *Agenda for Biblical People,* Harper & Row Publishers, New York, 1976.

Jim Wallis, the author, is not simply writing about some pet theory; he is sharing his soul. He not only espouses a non-traditional form of the church, he is actively involved in such an expression of the Christian faith. (Mr. Wallis serves in the leadership of the Sojourners Community in Washington, D. C.)

Wallis' book is addressed to those people who seek to be radically true to the Bible in the personal, political, and economic facets of their lives. The kind of commitment Wallis speaks of transcends traditional and denominational lines. People from varied religious backgrounds are brought together by a desire to be a biblical people. The critical distinction, in Wallis' words, "is whether one is a supporter of established Christianity or a practitioner of biblical faith." *Agenda for Biblical People* explores what the biblical imperative "be not informed" means in our social, political and economic lives. How do the fall, idolatry, the Cross, and the Resurrection apply to the realities of global poverty and violence, political power and the demi-gods of race, class, sex, and idealogy?

Wallis stresses the necessity for the rebuilding and restructuring of the church as a "new community" and sees such as the basis for any meaningful and faithful action in the world by Christians.

Wallis states that our theology must be revelational in its basis. He quotes Dietrich Bonhoeffer's statement that the task of theology is: "From God to reality, not from reality to God, goes the path of theology (P. 52)."

> In other words, the Christian message does not originate in human life and society but must come to them. The struggle of the church will always be to receive and witness to the revelation of God in its own period of history . . . The fundamental question now, as always, is whether the Word of God has been received and obeyed (PP. 52, 53).

The author is not an outsider taking cheap shots at the church. He is a person whose life is dedicated to "fleshing-out" the very revelational-based discipleship that he writes about as an expression of the church. He is not saying that the established church must die; he is saying that the "establishment" church must cease its narcissistic preoccupation with self-preservation and set up a new or renewed biblically-based agenda for discipleship.

Needed Number Ratify Treatise

When the North Carolina State Convention met for its Sixty-ninth Annual Session in September, the Executive Committee recommended the approval of the proposed *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* and that the revision be sent to the conferences of the Convention for ratification. Upon proper motion, the recommendation passed. In order for the treatise to become the offical statement of our beliefs and practices, two-thirds (or five of the seven) of the Conferences in the State Convention needed to ratify the document.

Since the 1981 session of the Piedmont Conference was held prior to the State Convention, the member churches did not have an opportunity to consider the matter. The first group to do so was the Albemarle Conference which ratified the revision.

The Western Conference met for its Ninety-fifth Annual Session on October 15, at Elwood Lane Church, Kannapolis. The Rev. Keith Cobb delivered the Conference message which was entitled "The Man Who Replaced the Irreplaceable Man." Upon proper motion, the Conference abolished the Board of Ministerial Character and assigned its duties to the Board of Ordination whose membership was increased from five to seven members. The Western Conference tabled a motion to consider the proposed treatise until its 1982 session. The Rev. Clyde Cox is Moderator of the Conference.

When the Pee Dee Association held its annual meeting on Saturday, October 17, it ratified the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*. The meeting was held at Oak Grove Church near Bladenboro. The Rev. Jackie Godwin serves as Moderator of the Association.

The Eastern Conference was the third group to adopt the proposed document. It did so when it met at Bridgeton Church on October 21, 22. The Revs. Graham Lane and Walter Sutton delivered Conference sermons. The Moderator of the Conference is the Rev. Carol B. Hansley.



Pictured above are the Revs. Bill Futch and Carol B. Hansley. Mr. Futch served as Clerk of the Eastern Conference; Mr. Hansley is Moderator.

The 127th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference was held at Casey's Chapel Church near Goldsboro on October 29. The Convention message was preached by the Rev. Arnold Price. The Rev. C. Felton Godwin, moderator, led the group as it also adopted the revised treatise.

The last Conference to meet for its annual session was the Central Conference which met November 4. The 1982 meeting, the 233rd annual sitting, met with Hugo Church. The Central Conference approved the proposed document; it was the fifth body to do so. During the meeting, the Rev. Walter Reynolds was given a rising vote of appreciation for his 15 years of devoted service as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation. (Mr. Reynolds' resignation will be effective December 30, 1981.) The Conference also voted to send $500 to Mount Olive College for College Hall, and an additional $500 was designated for Cragmont Assembly. The Rev. Willis Wilson is Moderator of the Conference.

Conference meetings for 1981 have come and gone, but the decisions made during those meetings will forevermore influence our church.

Conference Leadership . . .

Serving as the Moderators of the seven conferences of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists are seven very capable men. They are the Revs. M. E. Cox, Piedmont Conference; Robert May, Albemarle Conference; Clyde Cox, Western Conference (not pictured); Jackie Godwin, Pee Dee Association; Carol B. Hansley, Eastern Conference (pictured on Page 8); C. Felton Godwin, Cape Fear Conference; and Willis Wilson, Central Conference.



The Rev. M. E. Cox



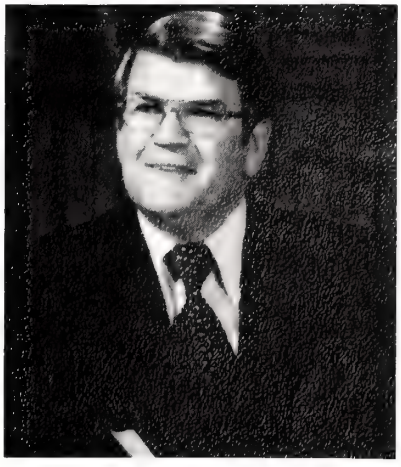
The Rev. Robert May



The Rev. Jackie Godwin



The Rev. C. Felton Godwin



The Rev. Willis Wilson

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

BEST USE FOR EAGLE'S NEST



These three men are the steering committee for planning how to best use the recreational facilities at Eagle's Nest owned by Mount Olive College. From left to right, they are: Dr. Tom Johnson, dean of students; Bill Kemp Jr., president of Kemp industries and chairman of the committee; and Frank Harrison, chaplain. They met most recently with a group of local ministers who have used the facility and who are interested in the management of Eagle's Nest.

REVELATION: A DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

by Mary Susan Yates

Students at Mount Olive College were recently taken back in time on a journey to Pergamun, the capital city of Asia Minor. Their "guide" was Dr. James Lowell Blevins, associate professor of New Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Their itinerary was the second chapter of Revelation.

In his lectures on the Book of Revelation, Dr. Blevins uses role playing and dramatic interpretation to create interest and aid in understanding. "Many people come to the book trying to have the future outlined for them," Dr. Blevins explained. "The book was never intended to be used that way."

Feeling a need to rectify the situation, Dr. Blevins uses drama to convey the book, as he interprets it, in laymen's terms. He continued, "The major purpose of the Book of Revelation was to give hope to persecuted Christians—a positive message of hope. The book's theme is that God is in control, no matter what nations rise."

"What then," I asked, "does the Book of Revelation have to say to us today?"

"John makes use of all three tenses—what was, what is, and what is to be," he replied. "Today we need to recapture Pergamum's excitement and consider what word we have to proclaim. The Christians in Pergamum were threatened, but they were still willing to give their witness."



Dr. James Lowell Blevins

Dr. Blevins is currently writing a book based on his studies entitled *The Drama of Revelation.*

THE "MESSIAH" TO BE PERFORMED

The "Messiah" by Handel will be presented Tuesday, December 8, at 8 p.m. under the direction of Carolyn M. Knox, professor of music. The college chorus will be joined by a chamber orchestra of twelve musicians, many of whom have been associated with the North Carolina Symphony.

In order to accommodate more visitors, the presentation will be at the First Baptist Church (300 North Chestnut Street) in Mount Olive.

All friends of the college are cordially invited. Individuals or groups who wish to have seats reserved should contact Mary Susan Yates, director of public relations, Mount Olive College, at 658-2502.

The Mount Olive College Chorus and Singers will be featured on the "Christmas Carousel" to be televised on WITN-TV, channel 7, December 24, at 11 p.m.

Have YOU Heard the Cry of the Lost?



December Is Foreign Missions Month



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Scripture Lesson: Mark 13:32-37 (I suggest the use of the *Good News Bible—Today's English Version.* It is easy to read and understand.)

ADVENT

Purpose: To learn the meaning of Advent and to begin preparation for receiving anew the coming of Christ into our lives.

Prop: A calendar

Advent means "a coming." It is to Christmas what Lent is to Easter, a season of preparation, penitence, and expectancy of the coming of the Christ Child. The season of Advent has opened the Christian year since the Eighth Century. It begins on the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day, November 30. It always includes four Sundays before Christmas. (Use a calendar to visualize this.)

Through prayer, meditation scriptural and Advent-centered readings, and fasting, the Christian seeks to prepare his heart and mind for the true meaning of Christmas.

Activity: On the basis of your own thoughts and the Scripture lesson, discuss what you can do as a family to prepare yourselves for Christmas. (Always close with prayer, letting each member of the family pray.)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

Scripture Lesson: John 1

PARABLE OF THE BIRDS

Once upon a time there was a man who looked upon Christmas as a lot of humbug. He wasn't a Scrooge. He was a very kind and decent person. But he didn't believe all that stuff about an Incarnation which churches proclaim at Christmas. And he was too honest to pretend that he did. He simply could not understand the claim that God became man. It didn't make any sense to him.

On Christmas Eve, his wife and children went to church for the midnight service, but he stayed home. It began to snow. "If we must have Christmas," he thought, "it's nice to have a white one." He sat down by the fire to read the newspaper. A few minutes later he heard a thudding sound, followed by another and another. Birds, caught in the storm, and in a desperate search for shelter, had tried to fly through his window. Now they lay huddled miserably in the snow. "I can't let the poor creatures lie there and freeze," he thought. "But how can I help them?"

He thought of the barn. It was a warm shelter. He put on his coat and overshoes and tramped out through the deepening snow to the barn. He opened the doors wide and turned on a light. But the birds didn't come in. "Food will bring them in," he thought. So he sprinkled a trail of bread crumbs from the birds to the sheltering barn. To his dismay, the birds ignored the crumbs, and continued to flop around helplessly in the snow. He tried shooing them into the barn. They scattered in every direction—except the warm, lighted barn.

"They find me a strange and terrifying creature," he said to himself, "and I can't seem to think of any way to let them know they can trust me. If I could only be a bird myself for a few minutes, perhaps I could lead them to safety."

Just at that moment, the church bells began to ring. He stood silently for a while, listening to the bells pealing the glad tidings of Christmas. Then he sank on his knees in the snow. "Now I understand," he whispered. "Now I see why you had to do it."—Louis Cassels

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Scripture Lesson: Galatians 6:1-5

SHARING

Purpose: The importance of sharing and bearing each other's burdens.

Activity: Tell one of the children to try to lift or move something heavy. When he is unable to do it or finds its difficult, let everyone in the family help. Use this as a springboard into a discussion of sharing problems and difficult tasks. Two or three working together can accomplish things which one person alone could not. Also, try to get your children to share some problem or concern which they faced today in school. Emphasize that they can always come to you and share their burdens, and, certainly, they can always

share then with Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Peter 5:6, 7).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 25:31-46

OTHERS HAVE NEEDS

Purpose: To become more sensitive to the needs of others and find ways to help meet their needs.

Is there a needy family in your community? Do you know an elderly person who will be alone throughout the Christmas season? Why not adopt that needy family or elderly person for the holidays? Discuss some of the things you could do to make their Christmas more meaningful. Christmas might just take on a new and deeper meaning for you. Discuss the Scripture lesson in light of this.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 9:15

CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS

Purpose: To make us conscious that the giving of each Christmas present is a symbol of "God's unspeakable gift," Christ.

Prop: A wrapped gift or Christmas present

Christmas is a time of giving. It came into existence because of a supreme act of giving. The gift is God himself in the Christ Child. Christ is the greatest gift you can receive or give this Christmas. He is your gift, personally presented to you by the Father. This wrapped present is a reminder of the "unspeakable gift." When you give or receive one, remember God's gift.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12; John 8:12

CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS

Activity: Draw and cut out a star. Copy the verse John 8:12 on it. The family can memorize it and take turns repeating it during the next family devotion.

Through our imaginations, we have wandered with those wise men following the star to Jesus. Have you ever realized that it takes the darkness of night to bring out the stars of Heaven? So Jesus is our Star. Lives were filled with the darkness of sin and despair. But in the midst of this great darkness, there came a light—a star—as bright as day. My father always told me that if I ever got lost in the woods to "look for the star. Keep your eye on it. Follow it! And it will lead you out." Christ is the Star who can lead us out of darkness into the glorious light of God's presence. Let us allow Him to shine through our lives into the darkness of those around us.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture Lesson: 1 Peter 2:24

CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS

Activity: Perhaps tonight would be a good time to get and decorate the Christmas tree. You could have family devotions while decorating it.

Whatever else the Christmas tree represents, it cannot help but remind us that the Christ Child grew into manhood and died on a tree for us. It was not a tree decorated with glittering strands and colorful bulbs, but with the broken, bleeding body of God's Son. Just think! God loves you enough that He was willing to give His Son for you.

Look at the tree and remember, remember the Babe of Bethlehem "who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree . . . ."

This month's *Family Devotions* are being written by the Rev. Bass Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell is pastor of Core Creek Church in Cove City. He graduated from Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. He attended Florida State University and did post-graduate work at Duke University Divinity School.

He and his wife, Debbie, have an eight-week-old son, Michael William.

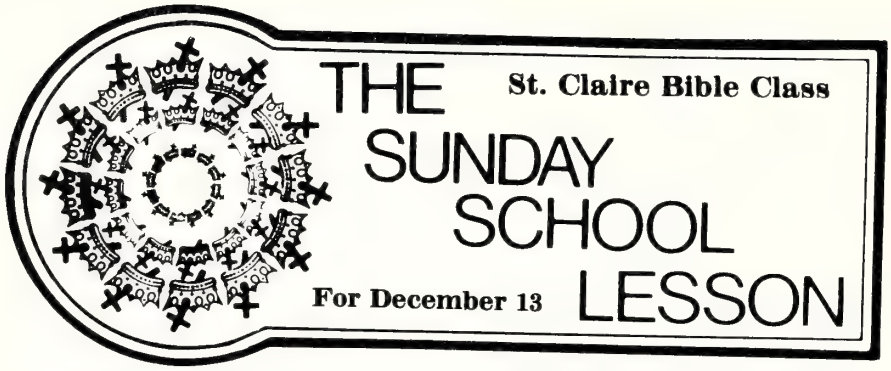
IN MEMORIAM

On June 14, 1981, God saw fit to take our loving mother from this earthly life to meet her Heavenly Father. She was born in Greene County, North Carolina, on December 5, 1898, to Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Gay. She became a Christian at an early age, and as long as she remained in good health she was very active in church. She was a life-long member of Harrell's Chapel Church, located near Snow Hill. For the last four years of her life, she was in the Oak Manor Nursing Home in Snow Hill. She also had the patience of Job. She couldn't speak very well because of strokes she had had, but she would listen contentedly as someone spoke to her about God. Everyone that knew her, loved her. She taught Sunday school for a number of years, and was a member of the auxiliary until she became too ill to attend. She was married to Mr. Raymond Hart for sixty-five years. She leaves behind her a very large family—a loving husband who is still living, and 10 children. We miss her so much, but our loss is Heaven's gain.

"The Life of Mother"

Her place no one can take,
The void she leaves nobody can fill,
The mark she made when her life touched ours;
It's fresh, but her heart has stilled.
Though the years pursue their helpless course
And visions are replaced,
Memories outline and also fade,
Time obscures that familiar face,
And a name sometimes is forgotten,
The things she said and did,
And lives more noble come and go,
But what she was cannot be hid.
Lessons she unknowingly taught,
By being what she was,
They certainly changed the lives she met,
So that the course which they now take,
Points somehow higher than before.
She was a true and precious woman,
She has entered Heaven's door,
Although her life on earth is done,
Her heritage will not rust.
For part of her remains, and
Lives on as part of us.

Mrs. Valeria H. Head



JESUS AS SON OF MAN

Lesson Text: Matthew 8:18-22
Memory Verse: Mark 8:31

I. INTRODUCTION

The first time that the phrase "Son of man" appears in the Gospels is in our first text in this lesson. The phrase reappears in the two other texts we consider; however, it is not a new term. It was used in the Book of Ezekiel many times.

The term *Son of man* was Jesus' favorite self-description. It has created much discussion by theologians. Most of them want to dilute its meaning and significance by saying that it refers to Jesus' humanity alone. It is their feeling that when Jesus used it to describe Himself, He was saying that He was a mere man.

Indeed Jesus did put on humanity (Philippians 2:5-8), and this term would include His humanness. But if we stop there, we would need to ask, "Son of what man?" Jesus was not the son of any human male.

There is a divine side to the phrase; it is also a Messianic term used in the Old Testament to refer to the one who would come from Heaven with great power and glory (Daniel 7:13). Jesus made it clear that He was that one (Mark 13:26; 14:62) as did the apostles (1 Corinthians 15:47; Ephesians 4:8-10). The "Son of man" phrase really spotlights the Son of *God* who became a man. When we can grab hold of that significance, we seize an important picture of God's love. God's Son so identified with us that He put on skin like ours and went through experiences as we do. He even went to the Cross and died for us. It is mind-boggling to grasp the depth of God's love for us.

To suggest that Jesus was describing only His humanity when using this term is not supported by even a shallow investigation of the Gospel records.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Last week's Bible Text was taken from the Gospel of Mark, and we began the lesson with a brief introduction to that Gospel. Today, we have printed Scripture from both Matthew and Mark, hence we will begin with a brief introduction only to the Gospel of Matthew.

B. The Gospel of Matthew was written especially for the Jews, and therefore seeks to convince them that Jesus is the promised Messiah. So as might be expected, it quotes the Old Testament more than either of the other Gospels. In fact, this book has been called the "Gospel of the King."

C. Homer Kent, in his introduction to this Gospel as given in the *Open Bible,* says, "Matthew was apparently designed for the instructions of new converts. There is a clear arrangement of the teachings of Jesus in five books, perhaps influenced by the five books of Moses. The first of these discourses is the famous Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5—7), on the theme of discipleship. The second (Matthew 10) is on the theme of mission or apostleship, when the twelve were sent forth to preach and heal. The third discourse (Matthew 13) is on the parables of the Kingdom. The fourth (Matthew 18) is on the discipline and fellowship of the church. The fifth (Matthew 24, 25) is the great apocalyptic discourse on the end of the world."

D. Regardless of which of the four Gospels we study, we will find the same great truth—Jesus was God manifest in human flesh. This made Him the God-man. This has been called the hypostatical union between God and human flesh. Because of our limited ability, we are unable to completely understand this.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. As we enter the Christmas season, looking toward the day on which we observe Jesus' birth, we will be reminded in many ways and on many occasions that His was a miraculous birth. None other has ever been born as Jesus was. The holy Child that lay in a manger in Bethlehem was the Son of God, yes, more than that, He was God born in human flesh. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth" (John 1:1, 14).

B. Thus the Son of God became also the Son of man, born of a human mother, Mary the virgin, soon to become the wife of Joseph who never knew her as wife until after Jesus' miraculous birth. We must remember, however, that in becoming the Son of man, Jesus never lost His identity as the Son of God, retaining every quality of holiness that He possessed before He left Heaven.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

STONEY CREEK

(Continued from Page 4)

store for His children who follow His leadership and surrender their will to His. Praise God from whom all blessings come!

Since 1908 those serving as pastor have been:

C. E. Orton 1908-1910, 1912-1913
G. W. David 1910-1911
N. S. Lancaster 1913-1915, 1918-1920
N. B. Wall 1915-1918
G. C. Joyner 1920-1923
A. A. Wells 1923-1926
W. H. Lancaster 1926-1927, 1931-1940
W. L. Hart 1927-1931
C. F. Bowen 1940-1945, 1975-1978
Clifton Rice 1945-1952
J. W. Alford 1952-1956
J. A. Evans 1956-1959
Joseph Ingram 1960-1967
Raymond Jones 1967-1969
Robert May 1969
David C. Hansley 1969-1971
Fred A. Rivenbark 1971-1975
Bobby Bazen 1978-1979
Gary M. Bailey 1979-

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Grandfather told the young lad, "You know, Bret, I was just saying to Grandmother the other day, we haven't seen ol' Bret out here for a long time. I bet he'd like to come out and go fishing with me."

Grandfather Anderson died the next January. But before cancer took its toll, he and Bret fished together; they spent hours walking in the woods finding treasures. The real treasure, however, had already been found—it was the love that brought healing to a father and son, and added a new dimension to life.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

this past year on the ornaments that will be used for the program.

Chrismon ornaments are ornaments in the shape of Christian monograms that have been used throughout the ages as signs of the Christian faith. They are hung on a tree to tell a story of the true meaning of Christmas.

Central Conference Laymen To Hold Quarterly Meeting

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will hold its regular quarterly meeting at Bethany Church, Route 1, Winterville, on Monday, December 7. The meeting begins at 8 p.m.

All laymen and their pastors are encouraged to attend. The last meeting was attended by 98 men from fourteen churches and the goal this time is 100.

The Revelators to Be At Hugo Church

The Revelators from Indiana will present a Christmas program at Hugo Church on Tuesday, December 8, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and hear this group.

A STRANGE MINISTER

(Continued from Page 5)

One member, who spent most of his summers in the North and his winters in the South, when he heard about what his pastor had done, became so incensed that he said the pastor—he couldn't remember his name—should not only be censured but also made to promise he would be present at every service of the church, unless death forbids.

Well, the church board met, talked over what it means to be a minister in their church, and decided that, especially in a brotherhood church, a minister should not act the way their minister does. One board member rightly raised the question: "What makes him think he can act like any other member? He should be an example. The Scripture is clear on that!"

After all these things happened, it didn't take the board long to decide that the church needed a dependable minister. This strange minister must be dismissed. In the minutes of the meeting the secretary, who had been quiet during the discussion, wrote: "It was clear he cannot be a minister here if he wants **to act like the rest of the members."**

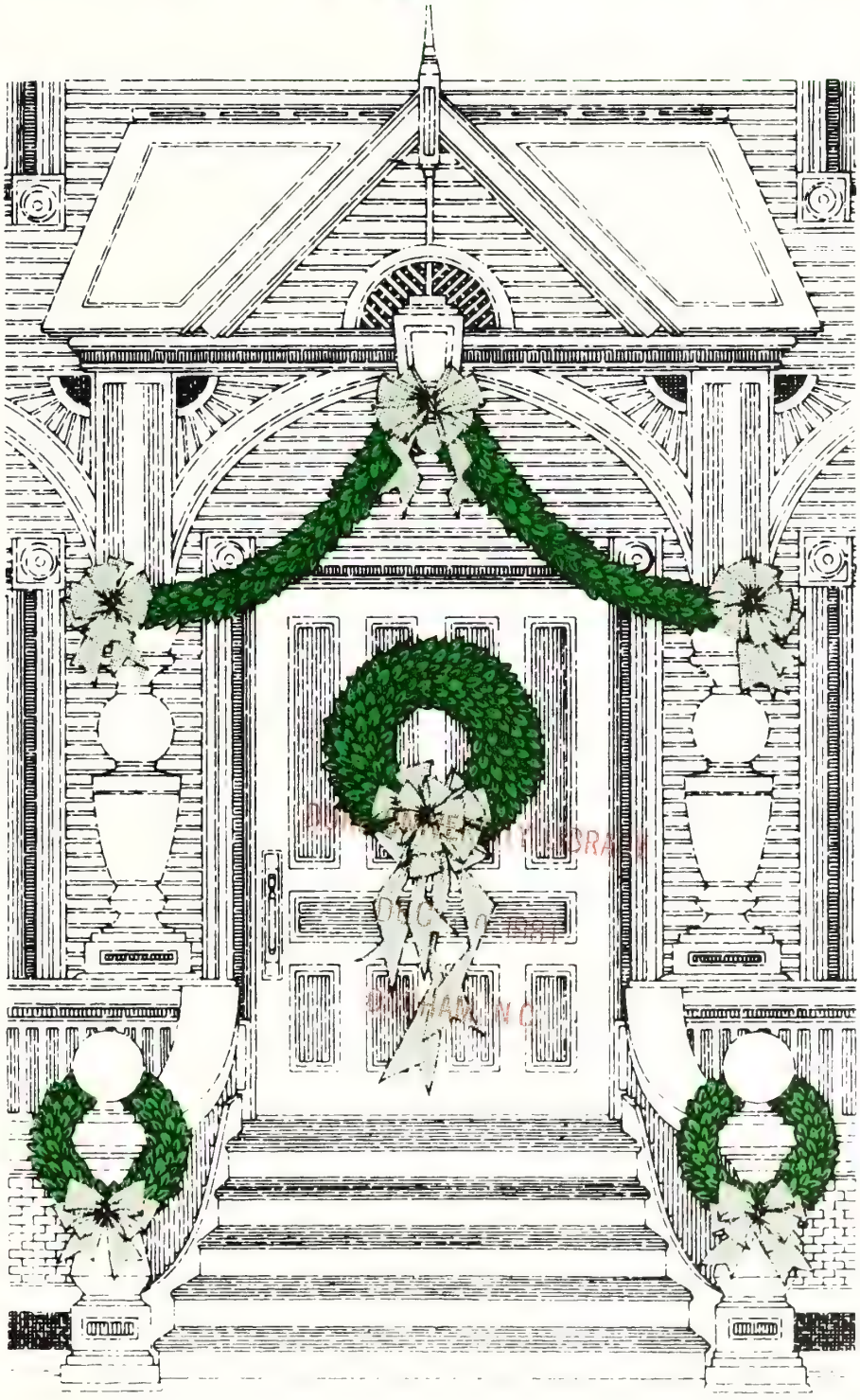
And where can such a minister with such an attitude serve? It is easy to see why he has no invitations elsewhere, isn't it? He didn't even realize the importance of the church or what membership in the church means.

—John M. Drescher

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SILENT NIGHT • GOD REST YOU MERRY GENTLEMEN • SILVER BELLS
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH • THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY
GOOD CHRISTIAN MEN REJOICE • GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN
WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY • O HOLY NIGHT
AWAY IN A MANGER • DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?
WINTER WONDERLAND • FROSTY THE SNOWMAN
WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS
IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR • COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS
O COME O COME EMMANUEL • O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
WHITE CHRISTMAS • THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR • PRAISIN' JESUS
THOU DIDST LEAVE THY THRONE • I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY
WHAT CHILD IS THIS? (GREENSLEEVES) • I WONDER AS I WANDER
HOW GREAT OUR JOY • JINGLE BELLS
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The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

It's Time for a Second Look!

I remember well the Christmas mornings I greeted the first rays of sunlight with a smile—and a stampede into the living room. Years have passed since then, but I still love Christmas. Part of the reason for this has to do with the fact that it is during the Christmas holidays that people act as they should. Just think how much better our world would be if we maintained our "Christmas fevers" all year long!

But even as I anxiously await the holidays, I must face reality: there are people in this world, and many of them, who are not financially able to exchange gifts this year. There are those who will not have a Christmas dinner, or dinner of any kind for that matter. The most tragic of all realizations is that there are a multitude of people who still have not received the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

At this point my emotions become mixed and varied. I have to ask why we teach compassion for the poor, and are not compassionate. We stand up for justice and then turn our heads when we encounter oppressed, needy people. It is all too easy for me (and you!) as a Christian to be satisfied. Yes, I can articulate doctrinal declarations of faith; I worship on Sunday mornings and Sunday evenings; I give to my church, my denomination, and many worthwhile causes. I can even voice "beautiful" testimonies as to how Jesus meets my every need, how Christ satisfies my inner longings, how He helps me be all I can be. I speak of those who need Jesus and say I care about the needs of others—then I sleep night after night in my nice warm bed, never thinking of the children, who, like Jesus, have no crib for a bed. I eat sumptuously while billions are starving; and the inconsistencies continue . . . but my inner conflict does not stop here.

For the last several years I have wondered why we are so concerned about what we are going to get for Christmas—it's Jesus' birthday, not ours! (I know gifts are given out of love, but let's face it, too many are given out of obligation!) Why can't Christmas be a holy day? It is time we put the whole matter into perspective.

Let's make Christmas different this year! We may not be able to guarantee wrapped packages adorned with pretty ribbons for all or a Christmas dinner on every table. But we can offer a gift of such magnitude that it will last forever—for this life and the next! We can share Jesus (and ourselves), for such a present won't break, it doesn't need batteries, it can't be outgrown—or even removed from our presence. The beautiful part is that no money is needed for such a purchase, and no amount could ever buy it.

And let's not forget that Christmas is Jesus' birthday.

This year, let's choose our gifts wisely. What do you have in mind for those on your list? There is not a present anywhere that could ever match the gift of eternal life. Time's running out; I suggest you get your list and check it twice!

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

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DIRECTOR INGRAM HONORED

by C. F. Bowen

You should have been there! If you weren't, there were over 150 who did come to the banquet November 20 at Mount Olive College, held in honor of the Rev. Joseph Ingram in recognition of his fourteen years of service as director of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Board.

Mr. Ingram resigned recently to accept the pastorate of Unity Church in Wilson.

No formal program was planned; the beauty and success of the banquet was in its informality. Foreign Missions Board Chairman, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, presided and presented several personalities to give testimonials in behalf of Mr. Ingram, all of which were stirring and of great compliment to Mr. Ingram, whose term expires December 15.

Among those speaking were: the Rev. C. F. Bowen, who spoke for the Board itself; the Rev. Harold Jones, as a former missionary to the Philippines; the Rev. Wayne King, also as a former missionary to the Philippines; the Rev. Ed Miles, who served in the Philippines in an emergency situation several years ago; Charles Barnard, a candidate for the mission field; the Rev. Taylor Hill, head of the Home Missions Board; Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College; and several others, including Mike Ingram and Becky Estep, the Ingrams' two children; Mrs. Rose Bowen; Mrs. Dola Dudley; and other friends of the Ingrams.

The Rev. Norman Ard, also a Board member, presented Mr. Ingram a plaque commending his services.



The Rev. Joseph Ingram

It was an impressive moment when over fifty members of the Unity Church in Wilson stood to be recognized. Any new pastor would have been pleased, as was Mr. Ingram, to have such loyal support at such a time.

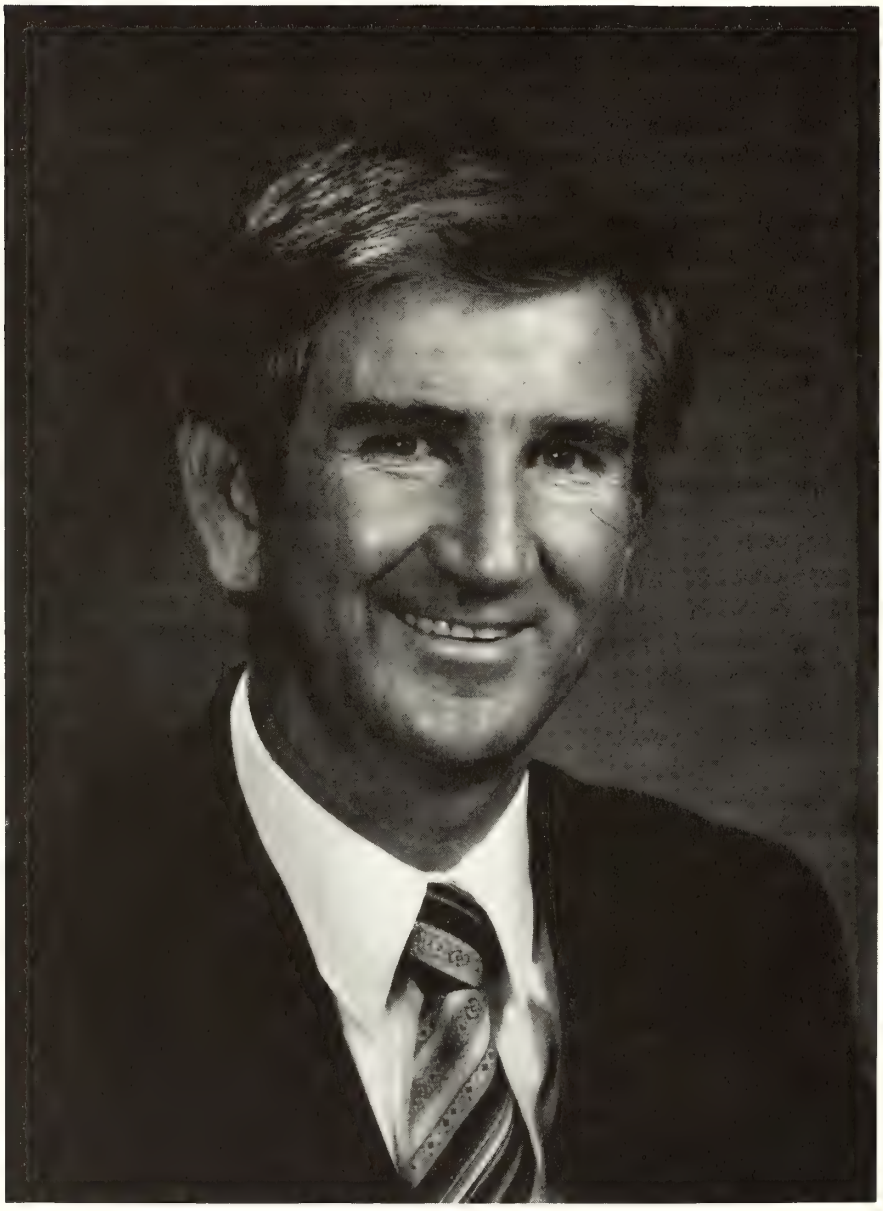
In honor of Mr. Ingram, $605 was given to foreign missions. In appreciation of his services, a gift of $250 was given to him.

At the close, the Rev. Harold Jones was presented as the new director. His remarks were well received and served as a challenge to all present.

He Brings with Him Great Experience

Our New Missions Director

by C. F. Bowen



The Rev. Harold Jones

The Foreign Missions Board is extremely happy to announce that our new missions director is the Rev. Harold Jones, succeeding the Rev. Joseph Ingram who resigned recently after fourteen years of service to the Board. Director Jones was a unanimous choice of the Board in its October meeting. He resigned the pastorate of Living Waters Church the first of November.

Director Jones is no stranger to foreign missions, having served with the Board as a missionary to the Philippines from 1969 to 1975, with Sandra, his wife. He brings to the job much vital and useful experience, both as a missionary and an administrator.

For the time being, Director Jones will work out of his home in Pikeville and from the former office of the Board in Mr. Ingram's home near Goldsboro. He will take up his duties officially after December 15, the date Mr. Ingram leaves office. Mrs. Ingram will continue as office secretary for the time being. Later, when plans are complete, the Foreign Missions Board will move its office to Ayden.

Mrs. Sandra Jones, Director Jones' wife, will also assist her husband in getting his work started. She, too, brings useful experience to the office of her husband.

In a recent letter to the Rev. C. F. Bowen, chairman of the Foreign Missions Board, Director Jones expressed the following:

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

"To be chosen to serve the Free Will Baptist Church as Foreign Missions Director is a blessing from God that only the above verse can express adequately. I assure you that I will by the help of my Lord seek His excellence in this great task of directing Free Will Baptist outreach around the world.

"My desire is that every church have a mission consciousness, and see that the supreme task of the church is the evangelization of the world.

"Pray for me and my family as we take this step for our Lord."

Director Jones Will Visit Your Church

The Rev. Harold Jones, new Foreign Missions Director, announces that he is available for services in churches and at other gatherings any time after December 20. He will be able to fill any morning or evening service you may desire of him. Please contact him through the Foreign Missions Board office at Box 979, Goldsboro, NC 27530, or call Goldsboro, 734-5946. Do not delay, for the dates are being taken rapidly.

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? . . . (Romans 10:13-15).



December Is Foreign Missions Month

Pastor of the Week

The Rev. David R. Thick

The members of Free Union Church, Route 1, Pinetown, honor their pastor, the Rev. David R. Thick, this week. Your pastor can be the next one honored. We will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A BELOVED PASTOR

by William T. Waters Jr.



The Rev. David R. Thick

"Okay!" spoken in a friendly tone is an expression we often hear from our beloved pastor, the Rev. David R. Thick, as he finishes the announcements in services at Free Union Church, Route 1, Pinetown.

The Rev. David R. Thick was born in Flint, Michigan, on June 29, 1940, the youngest of nine children (two girls and seven boys) born to William Melvin and Mamie Lee Owens Thick. On March 16, 1963, David married Sondra K. Binkley. They have two daughters, Kim, age 17; and Karen, age 15.

Brother David was saved in the First General Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan, in June, 1968. He attended Oakland City College at Oakland City, Indiana, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. He was licensed to preach in August, 1971, and ordained into the ministry in August, 1972, by the Michigan Presbytery. He has pastored churches in Indiana, Missouri, and North Carolina.

On October 15, 1974, Mr. Thick moved to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex, where he and Sandy were houseparents for three and one-half years. He joined the Free Will Baptist denomination shortly after moving to North Carolina. He has been a member of the Western and Eastern Conferences, and is now a member of the Albemarle Conference.

Mr. Thick pastored King's Cross Roads Church near Farmville for about one and one-half years while he was at the Children's Home. Then he accepted the pastorate at Jackson Heights Church in Kinston. He was at Jackson Heights Church for two and one-half years before he accepted the pastorate at our church, Free Union Church, Pinetown.

During his first year with us, nineteen have joined our church and he has baptized fourteen. Brother David and his family are loved very much by the young and old alike. His love for God and our church is very clearly shown in his powerful sermons, well-taught family night services, deeds of love and concern for the troubled, and the visits he makes to the sick.

As our thoughts go back to August 17, 1980, we give thanks to the Lord for guiding Brother David to preach the first sermon at our church. Our members that night voted 100% to call him as our pastor and it is our desire that he will be our pastor for many more years. We thank God for His blessings here at Free Union.

ATTENTION
WESTERN DISTRICT
LAYMAN'S LEAGUES

Do you have a Layman's League? Is it chartered? Would you like to organize a Layman's League in your church or get your Layman's League chartered? If so, contact Alfred R. Moore, member of State Layman's League Board, P.O. Box 586, Clayton, North Carolina 27520-0586.

The Aim of the State Layman's League Board is: (1) To get more men involved in church activities, and (2) start a State Layman's League Convention.

Alfred R. Moore

November 23, 1981

ATTENTION!

Ministers of the Central Conference who have missed three successive meetings of the Annual Conference are no longer in good standing with the Conference and stand in jeopardy of losing their credentials. They should contact the Board of Ordination immediately!

Leon Grubbs,
Central Conference Clerk



The Dixie Melody Boys to Present Program



The Dixie Melody Boys

The Dixie Melody Boys of Kinston will present a program of gospel music at Westside Church, 1205 Lynn Drive, Kinston, on Sunday, December 13, 1981, at 7 p.m.

The Jerry Taylor Family To Present Program

The Jerry Taylor Family will present a program of Christmas music on December 12, 1981, at 7:30 p.m., at Verona Church near Jacksonville. This family is well known for their presentations of "Noah's Ark" and "Down by the Creek Bank." Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this occasion.

Christmas Musical To Be Presented

The Youth Choirs of First Church, Goldsboro, and Christian Chapel Church, Pink Hill, will present a Christmas musical, "Wow, It's Christmas," on December 13, at First Church, Goldsboro, at 7 p.m.; and on December 27 at Christian Chapel Church at 7 p.m.

The musical is under the direction of Marla Ard and Mrs. Margaret Ard.

Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention Meets

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention met for its regular session on Monday, November 16, at 7 p.m., at Wilber's Restaurant, Goldsboro. The following members were present: A. Stanley Jenkins, Marvin R. Waters, Elwood Hill, H. Adrian Grubbs, M. Chris Singleton, Joe Crumpler, C. H. Overman, and Frank Grubbs.

The committee made progress on many items of business. It was decided that Chris Singleton would be the director of the encampment at Vandemere; also it was decided that a second "General Youth Week" would be pursued at Cragmont Assembly, with Harry Grubbs as the director. The 1982 Annual Session of the Sunday School Convention will meet at St. Mary's Church, New Bern, on Saturday, April 17. The theme of the meeting will be "The Relevance of Sunday School Teaching."

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for January 17, 1982, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Kinston. Members are asked to be there at 7 p.m.

Mental Health Training For Ministers

Saint Elizabeths Hospital, National Institute of Mental Health, offers ACPE accredited full-time chaplain internship and residency training programs with stipends beginning June 2, 1982. Resources for training include interdisciplinary programs available through the Hospital's Overholser Division of Training, as well as community mental health activities in the city of Washington, DC.

Internship and residency programs prepare pastors for more effective pastoral work and pastoral counseling in a parish, for ministry as institutional chaplains, or for pastoral work in community mental health centers. Stipends are projected to begin at $12,054 per year. In addition, there is an 11-week summer program for pastors and seminarians preparing for ordination and involves learning experiences in both the hospital and community settings. This full-time summer program also begins on June 2, 1982. If the budget permits a stipend projected at

(Continued on Page 15)

The Church by the Bend of the Road

There's a little church by the bend of the road
Shaded by a tall oak tree.
And it opens its doors, and it opens them wide
To all who yearn to be free.

For there are those whose lives are burdened
And whose hearts are heavy with sin.
To those this church offers pardon
And seems to whisper, "Oh sinner come in."

It offers to each a fellowship sweet
That they've been longing to find.
There's a warm friendly smile, a loving hand
And a wonderful peace of mind.

There's a oneness with each of its members
For each one has a part.
And the music that comes from the choir
Leaves a melody that stays in the heart.

I can travel this great state over
But no matter where I do roam,
I seem to hear within my soul
The voice of this church calling me home.

So friend, if your life seems burdened
Under a heavy load
Come, and you'll find your cares lifted
In the church by the bend of the road.

John W. Floyd
Dedicated to Hopewell Church

Mr. Floyd dedicated the above poem to Hopewell Church, Four Oaks, where he is a member.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

JAMES A. EVANS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED



Dr. Burkette Raper (left), president of Mount Olive College, presents to the Rev. James A. Evans of Seven Springs a resolution establishing the James A. Evans Scholarship at the College. The resolution was announced at a Founders' Day program at which Evans was the speaker. At right is James B. Hunt Sr. of Lucama, chairman of the board of trustees.

(Photo by Teresa Pittman, student photographer)

One of the highlights of Founders' Day was the announcement of the Rev. James A. Evans Scholarship Endowment. Friends and members of Free Will Baptist churches pastored by Mr. Evans in his fifty years as a minister honored him recently with the establishment of an endowment in his honor.

The endowment which totaled approximately $2,000 will provide a scholarship for students planning to enter the ministry or a related field of study. The fund is open for other contributions from those who would like to express their appreciation to Mr. Evans for his life of service to the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Mr. Evans is pastor of Memorial Church near Chocowinity.

The following resolution was read to an audience which included members of Mr. Evans' former pastorates, friends, students and faculty from Mount Olive College. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sebasta of Bryan, Texas, were recognized for having traveled the greatest distance in honor of Mr. Evans.

Resolution

JAMES A. EVANS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

WHEREAS, the Rev. James A. Evans was a noted leader in the early development of Mount Olive College;

WHEREAS, he was the first full-time employee of the College after it was located in the town of Mount Olive, having served as Director of Public Relations during 1954;

WHEREAS, he provided indispensable leadership in helping to recruit students and to prepare the College for its first collegiate level program;

WHEREAS, his services, leadership and endorsement have been unequivocal throughout the history of the College; and

WHEREAS, many of his friends, including churches which he has served during more than half a century as an ordained Original Free Will Baptist minister, have expressed a desire to honor him by establishing the "James A. Evans Scholarship Endowment";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That in appreciation for his services and leadership, the Board of Trustees declare November 24, 1981, during which Mount Olive College is celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of its charter, as "James A. Evans Day";
2. That the Board of Trustees accept designated gifts already made, and future gifts which may be so designated, for the purpose of establishing the "James A. Evans Scholarship Endowment" at Mount Olive College; and
3. That the earnings of the fund be known as the "James A. Evans Scholarship" and be awarded to worthy students, with priority given to students preparing for the Christian ministry or other church-related vocations.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Louise Edgerton *Secretary*

James B. Hunt *Chairman*

W. Burkette Raper *President*

November 24, 1981

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper will be guest speaker at Edgewood Church, Edgecombe County, on Sunday, December 13, at 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit President Raper will review plans for developing Mount Olive into a four-year college.

The pastor of Edgewood Church is the Rev. Robert Strickland.

(Continued on Page 15)

FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

April 1, 1981 – September 30, 1981

CONTRIBUTIONS

Third Union District Sunday School Convention	$120.00
Hickory Chapel	80.93
Stoney Creek	25.00
Kinston, First	185.00
Core Creek	24.00
Free Union (Western)	12.00
Stancil's Chapel	81.24
Second Union Sunday School Convention	100.00
People's Chapel	10.00
Flood's Chapel	6.00
Pine Level	100.00
Friendship (Johnston County)	80.00
Total	$824.17

Respectfully submitted,
W. Milton Wiggs, *Treasurer*

NEW STATE HOME MISSION IN WEST DURHAM

The Rev. Harry Brown has started a new mission in Durham, NC. This mission is sponsored by the State Mission Board. His address is: 1901 Cannon Drive, Durham, NC 27712; phone, 471-9856.

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THE REV. AND MRS. DWIGHT HAWLEY VISIT THE PHILIPPINES



The Rev. and Mrs. Dwight Hawley

Visitors from back home are something that are just not a part of the daily routine here in the Philippines, because of distance and expense. It is a factor that must be adjusted to. But those things that are impossible with man are very simple with God as He in His grace made it possible for the Rev. Dwight Hawley, a Free Will Baptist pastor, and his wife, Aileen, to visit us, the Baker family, here in the Philippines on the Island of Palawan.

They arrived at the Puerto Princesa Airport on Thursday, October 15, at 2:20 p.m. The Free Will Baptist pastors, PBI students and the Baker family greeted them as they departed their plane. The next three days were filled with sharing and visiting the various phases of Palawan Bible Institute and the churches here on Palawan. Each of these groups enjoyed hearing what God has been doing in their lives. Also we enjoyed inspiring messages from the Word of God by Brother Hawley.

Brother Dwight's talent as a professional photographer was put into practical use on Friday. He was able to take the students' portraits for our yearbook. We were so thankful to have some one of his ability to help with this task.

The Hawleys and the Bakers became acquainted while at Mount Olive College. Having not seen each other in three years and with only an occasional letter, there was much talking and sharing to catch up with. It was a good time in the Lord. The time of their departing on Monday, October 19, came much too soon.

It was a joy and a blessing of the Lord to have the Hawleys for a few days' visit. Our lives were blessed and our hearts were challenged. From the entire Baker family we say, "Thank you, Dwight and Aileen, and thank you, Lord."

Respectfully submitted,
The Baker family

IN MEMORIAM
The Rev. Beverly Ballard
Death—the Last Sleep?

by Michael Ausbon



The Rev. Beverly Ballard

On September 30, 1981, God called our beloved brother and former pastor, the Rev. L. Beverly Ballard, home to be with him. Mr. Ballard has left many loving memories in our hearts. No one can ever forget the mark he put in our church. On March 5, 1977, Piney Grove Church of Beaufort County elected Mr. Ballard to serve as our next pastor, for the upcoming term. From that moment on, Mr. Ballard served our church dutifully. He always strived to keep God first and everything else second.

I would like to tell you some little things that he did in our church that we will always cherish. Whenever a young person in our church would have a birthday, he would give them a little novelty gift with a Bible verse on it. He also suggested having covered dish suppers before quarterly meetings to help further our fellowship with God. Mr. Ballard and I also compiled an informative booklet about our church. Beverly was always concerned with his young people. He frequently helped them with their singing. During Mr. Ballard's terms several improvements were made along with three new members added to the church.

We are not trying to put Mr. Ballard on a pedestal and praise him, it's only the opposite. We are thanking God for sending such a God-fearing man to come and serve our church with sincerity. Death, the last sleep for the Rev. Beverly Ballard? I don't think so. It is only the beginning of his new life with God in Heaven.

MINUTES OF THE 103RD CAPE FEAR SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

submitted by Mrs. Paul R. Lassiter

The 103rd Session of the Cape Fear Sunday School Convention convened with Pleasant Grove Church, October 10, 1981.

The President, the Rev. Arnold Price, opened the Convention. The congregation sang "Love Lifted Me." Mr. Price led in prayer.

The President appointed the following committee members:

Resolutions: the Rev. Mike Scott, chairman; the Rev. Edward Painter; and Mr. Milton Wiggs.

Nominating: Mark Hobbs, chairman; Person Daughtry; and Mrs. Lillian Stanley.

Finance: Steve Beasley, chairman; Mrs. Mary Lee Dorman; and Mrs. Lillian Stanley.

Mrs. Elaine Smith extended a most cordial welcome to everyone. A member from Riverside Church responded to the welcome.

Frank Bumgardner brought the devotions. He read Scripture from John 15:15 and Revelation 21:4. The Rev. Taylor Hill led in prayer.

The Rev. Arnold Price and his family rendered special music. They sang, "He's Still Working on Me," "Walk Through the Garden of My Heart," and "Believing on My Mind."

A most timely and impressive program was presented by the Rev. David Charles Hansley, president of the North Carolina State Convention. He chose for his topic, "Building a Church with People."

The offering was received in the amount of $50. Mr. George Norris gave the offertory prayer. The Rev. T. C. Farmer explained the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina Mutual Benevolent Fund.

In the business session, Mrs. Margaret Lassiter called the roll with ten (10) churches present, plus four (4) answering by letter. She also read the minutes from the 1980 meeting. They were approved as read.

The plaque for the largest increase in Sunday school attendance was presented to the Eastover Mission. The plaque for the largest number present for the Convention was presented to Riverside Church.

The Resolutions Committee reported the following:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that all of our Cape Fear Conference Sunday schools be encouraged to attend and to support the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention and that our Superintendents and Ministers be encouraged to attend the Ministers' and Superintendents' banquet.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the work, the history, and the importance of the Sunday school be kept before our people in the form of announcements, bulletin inserts and special presentations.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the importance of being on time for Sunday school be stressed for our members.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the practice of leaving Sunday school and not attending morning worship services be discouraged among Sunday school members and especially among teachers and officers, and that the total convention training program be stressed.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, that a full report of this Convention be presented by the delegates to their churches.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, that a report of this Convention be compiled for the 1982 yearbook.

The Rev. Mike Scott read the resolutions and made a motion that they be accepted. Motion passed. He then read the last resolution.

7. BE IT RESOLVED, that we give Pleasant Grove a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality this morning.

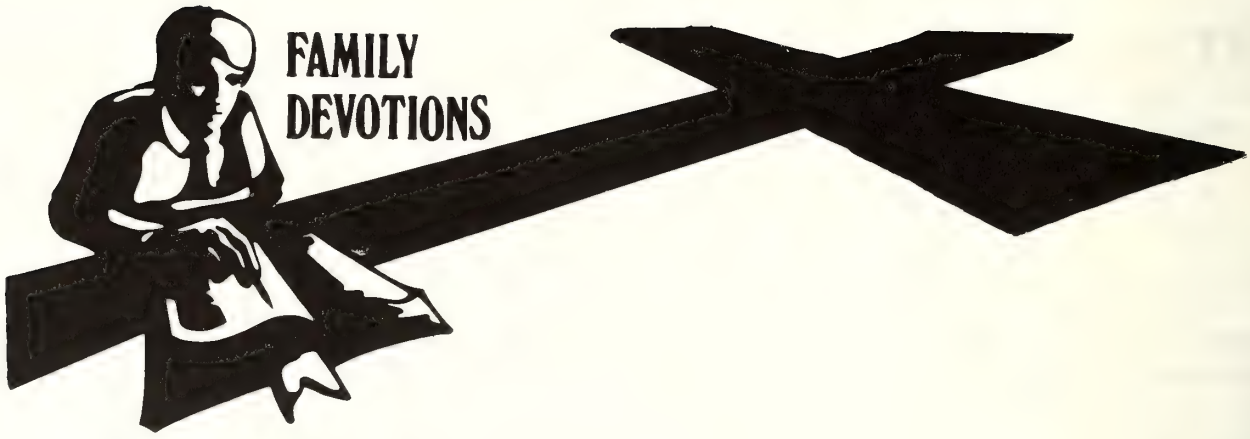
The congregation responded by standing.

The Finance Committee report was given by Mrs. Lillian Stanley. She reported a balance of $369.58 in the treasury. A motion was made by Mrs. Stanley that the report be accepted. Motion passed.

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by the Rev. Arnold Price due to the absence of Mark Hobbs. He presented the following slate of officers for approval:

President, the Rev. Phillip Wood; Vice President, Mrs. Patricia Wall; Secretary, Mrs. Elaine Smith; and Treasurer, Mr. Steve Beasley.

(Continued on Page 15)



Sunday, December 13

CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS

Scripture Lesson: 1 John 4

"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" is a song almost everyone knows by heart. Whatever else Santa symbolizes, he reflects our conception of God. Too often God is seen as the bearded old heavenly "Santa" who exists just to give us things we want, depending, of course, on whether we've been "naughty or nice," "good or bad." However, the God who gives Himself in the Christ Child could not be more different. In the Child, God has accepted us even before we were born, before we ever obeyed one commandment! The glorious meaning of Christmas is just this, that we do not have to struggle to earn God's love or reach a level of moral perfection, as if we could, for He already loves us! He has already forgiven and accepted us in Christ. Our part is to allow His seeking love to find us and accept His acceptance of us. Certainly we can use our children's excitement about the coming of Christmas to teach them about the coming of Jesus, God Incarnate, who gives freely the true gifts of Christmas: peace, joy, and love, whether we've been "naughty or nice."

Monday, December 14

CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS: CAROLS

Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

Music and Christmas have always gone together since the heavenly chorus sang on that miraculous night so long ago:

> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Who has not been moved to a depth of wonder and adoration by listening to Handel's *Messiah?* Who has not sensed the deep joy of Christmas one can find in the vibrant singing of "Joy to the World"? The meaning of Christmas is so profound, so at the heart of life, so beyond our ability to fully comprehend that it requires an art like music to express and convey a reality too deep for words. Right now, have the members of your family pick out their favorite Christmas carols. Sing them together! Let the words and the music penetrate into the depths of your heart, conveying the true joy of Christmas and expressing your "sighs too deep for words."

Tuesday, December 15

THE LITTLE RICH GIRL

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 16:11

Just after Amy had moved into the pretty green bungalow next door, Bobby decided to go over and say hello.

"What is your name?" Bobby called to the new neighbor.

"I'm Amy," she said.

"That's a nice name. What's your last name?"

"Oh," beamed Amy, "don't you know? I'm the little Rich girl."

Bobby was almost too astonished to say anything. "People who are rich," he finally said, "have lots and lots of things—more than you've got and lots more than I've got."

"Oh, I don't know," replied Amy. "But really and truly, I'm the little Rich girl, and I've got ever so many things. I've got the dearest baby brother, a wonderful father and mother, and a grandmother who sends me all kinds of things for Christmas. Besides, I've got two eyes to see with and two ears to hear with. Do you want me to go on?"

"I see what you mean," Bobby said happily. "But what is your last name?"

Amy laughed. "I told you. I'm the little Rich girl—R-I-C-H. My father is James Rich and my mother is Mrs. James Rich. I am Amy Rich."

"I guess you're right," Bobby agreed. "I think you are really rich, after all."—(Adapted from Emma Gary Wallace)

Wednesday, December 16

JESUS' PRESENT

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 2:10, 11

It was the custom in Linda's family on Christmas Day that one of the children would be selected to distribute the gifts. On this Christmas Linda had learned to read, so the honor of passing out the gifts went to her.

What a thrill it was to choose that first package! And then the others, one by one, until finally all the gifts were parceled out. But Linda kept searching in the branches for more, until finally her father asked, "What are you looking for, dear?"

"Daddy," she said, "I thought Christmas was Jesus' birthday."

"It is. Why?"

"I was just wondering where His present was. I guess everyone forgot Him."—(adapted from *Decision* magazine).

Thursday, December 17

WORSHIP: PART I

Scripture Lesson: Ezekiel 34:11, 12

Purpose: A three-part devotion to explore and present the meaning of worship.

What is worship? (Ask the children and discuss together their answers.) The word "worship" means "worthship." To worship something or someone is to proclaim that to you that thing or person is valuable, is deserving of your attention and honor. What are some of the things people worship today? (Discussion.) Everybody worships something or someone! What we worship is that thing or person to whom we give the most devotion and time. What or who is the most important part of our lives? Who deserves our highest praise and devotion more than God?

When we gather together on Sundays, we worship. We come to declare God's greatness, God's worthiness to be praised and served. The few hours taken on Sunday to formally worship God are our reminders that all hours are His.

Worship is God seeking us; He wants to enter into our lives, to convict and comfort, judge and challenge. Worship is also us seeking God to express our gratitude, to become in touch with the eternal and transcendent realm of life, to see God high and lifted up, and thus to put ourselves and our lives into the proper perspective.

Friday, December 18

WORSHIP: PART II

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 63:1-4; Exodus 20:2-6

Why do we worship? (Ask and discuss the answers.) We worship God because we have a deep inward need to worship. We need God! "God has made us for Himself," St. Augustine once said; and we cannot rest until we rest in God (see Psalm 63:1-4).

We worship to celebrate, to give thanks for God's blessings. We do not come to seek blessings as much as to express our gratitude for the ones we've already received.

We worship because God desires our worship and praise. God loves the adoration and love of His people. He demands our ultimate devotion and will tolerate no rivals (see Exodus 20:2-6).

Saturday, December 19

WORSHIP: PART III

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 150

Prop: A bulletin with the order of worship

How do we worship? (Ask and discuss.) Certainly, God is to be praised and uplifted in all that we do. However, the worship service on Sunday is a specific time and form of worship. Get a bulletin (with the order of worship) for each person and go through the service. Explain what each act of worship is and what it means. (For example, the prelude; it can be a musical or silent time to prepare yourself for worship. It is a time to clear your mind of all thoughts and concerns in order to concentrate on seeking God.) What are the call to worship, the invocation, the hymns, the Scripture lesson, the silent worship, the pastoral prayer, the confession of faith, the offering, the sermon, and the invitation? What are their purposes? You may need your minister's assistance to do this, or ask him to explain the order of worship on some Wednesday or Sunday night.

This month's *Family Devotions* are being written by the Rev. Bass Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell is pastor of Core Creek Church in Cove City. He graduated from Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. He attended Florida State University and did post-graduate work at Duke University Divinity School.

He and his wife, Debbie, have an eight-week-old son, Michael William.

COMING EVENTS

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Contion as Foreign Missions Month

December 18—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina

December 19—Christmas Holiday Begins, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

December 25—Christmas Day

NO BAPTIST

In accordance with our policy of printing only forty-eight issues of *The Free Will Baptist* each year, there will not be an edition on December 30. Our last issue for the year, our Christmas one, will be dated December 23. If you have any articles to be published in this issue, please submit them to us no later than December 15.



A SAVIOUR IS BORN

Lesson Text: Luke 2:1-14
Memory Verse: 1 John 4:14

I. INTRODUCTION

Christmas always is a very special holiday for the majority of us. The joyous music of Christmas filling the house, the beautiful tree with wrapped gifts beneath it, the noise of family fun, the parties, the special programs, the stacks of cards, the pushing crowds in the stores—all are a precious part of Christmas.

As we open the packages, some will be no surprise to us; perhaps we helped in the purchasing of them or we may have accidentally seen them tucked away. But some of the items in the colorful packages under the tree will be totally unexpected.

The surprises that surrounded the holy night of Jesus' birth so many years ago are so magnificent that none of us can fully comprehend them. We can ponder about them for a lifetime and still never exhaust their magnitude nor fathom their depth. In this lesson we shall consider some of those surprises.

Do you know your pedigree? Are you proud of your ancestors? If you did a careful investigation into your past, how many skeletons might you find in your closet?

Jesus' genealogy had a few black spots in it, but He was not ashamed. This tells us that just as He was not ashamed of His past, He will not be ashamed of His future family, the church, which can include you and me. The fact that He did not seek to erase some of the names in His family tree proves to us that He is not interested in erasing our names from the Book of Life just because we are not perfect. We should never think that we are too awful for Jesus to accept us as His kin or too sinful for Him to admit publicly of His relationship to us.

One of the men in Jesus' genealogy was Manasseh, who motivated God's people to do more evil than all the surrounding pagan nations put together (Matthew 1:10; 2 Kings 21:11, 12). Another man, Rehoboam, acted so selfishly and sinfully that the united people of God were split into two groups. Yes, there were some real scoundrels in Jesus' ancestry.

Four women are mentioned in Jesus' genealogy. One of them committed incest (Tamar, Matthew 1:3), one was a Moabitess (Ruth, 1:5), one was a harlot (Rahab, 1:5), and one was an adulteress (Bathsheba, 1:6). Certainly not a choice group.

This teaches us that God's grace is greater than man's circumstances if man will only trust Him and turn all of his affairs over to God. God is in the business of picking up the broken pieces of humanity and molding them into a beautiful mosaic. He laid His plans for mankind in eternity, worked them out on the stage of history, and brought them to fulfillment in the greatest Christmas surprise package of all—the birth of a babe in Bethlehem.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It was necessary that Jesus be both the Son of God and the Son of man before He could be the Saviour. There was an old Jewish law in effect at the time that was called the law of the kinsman-redeemer. This law stated that if anyone owed a debt and was unable to pay it, before his property could be taken for the debt, the next of kin had the right to come in, pay the debt and redeem the property. The two qualifications were that the redeemer had to be related to the person in debt and he had to have the resources to pay the debt and be willing to do so.

B. Jesus fitted into the picture perfectly. He was born of the Virgin Mary; therefore He had a human body. This made Him related to man. He was the Son of man. Then the fact that He was God made Him able and willing to redeem man and become His Saviour. When man fell because of sin, he became spiritually and morally bankrupt. He was about to lose everything that God had given him in the creation. In this lesson we shall see how Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary and was therefore perfectly suited to be *the* redeemer of that which man had lost and to become his Saviour.

C. It is appropriate that in this Christmas season, we think about the birth of the One who is the Son of man and the Son of God who became our Saviour by paying our debt, therefore making it possible for man to be restored again to his original position before the fall.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.*

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

about $770 per month may be offered.

For further information and application forms, write to the Protestant Chaplains Office, Saint Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, DC 20032. Applications must be made by February 15, 1982.

MINUTES

(Continued from Page 11)

He then opened the floor for other nominations. Paul Lassiter made a motion that nominations be closed as no one was nominated. The motion passed.

The Rev. T. C. Farmer made a motion that these be accepted. Motion passed.

Mr. Price turned the program over to Mr. Wood after he extended a welcome to each one to the fellowship hall for lunch.

Mr. Wood asked each one to stand for a rising vote of thanks to Mr. Price for a job well done as president of the Convention.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley gave the benediction and blessed the food.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Arnold Price, *President*
Mrs. Margaret Lassiter, *Secretary*

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT . . .

A rather pompous-looking deacon was endeavoring to impress on a class of young boys the importance of living the Christian life.

"Why do people call me a Christian?" the dignitary asked, standing very erect and beaming down upon them.

A moment's pause, then one youngster said: "It may be because they don't know you."

—Selected



New Bern Bible and Bookstore Invites You to an Autograph Party for Joyce Proctor Beaman on December 11.

Time: 5-7 p.m.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 9)

Library Books. Friends of Mount Olive College are encouraged to include the library on their Christmas gift list. Currently, the College has 32,000 volumes but a minimum of 50,000 volumes is needed to help meet the requirements for a four-year college.

The average cost of a book is $20 and for each gift in this amount the College will place a nameplate in a book. These gifts are tax deductible and may be in honor (person living) or in memory (person deceased) of friends or family members. The form below may be used in making your gift.

Your Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Church _____ Amount of Gift $ _____

Mail To: Office of the President
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365

If the book(s) are in honor or memory of someone, please send the appropriate information and the College will send cards which read:

A Gift to
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE LIBRARY
Has Been Entered for You
In Celebration of
Our Saviour's Birth
With the Best Wishes of

_____

(Your name will appear here.)

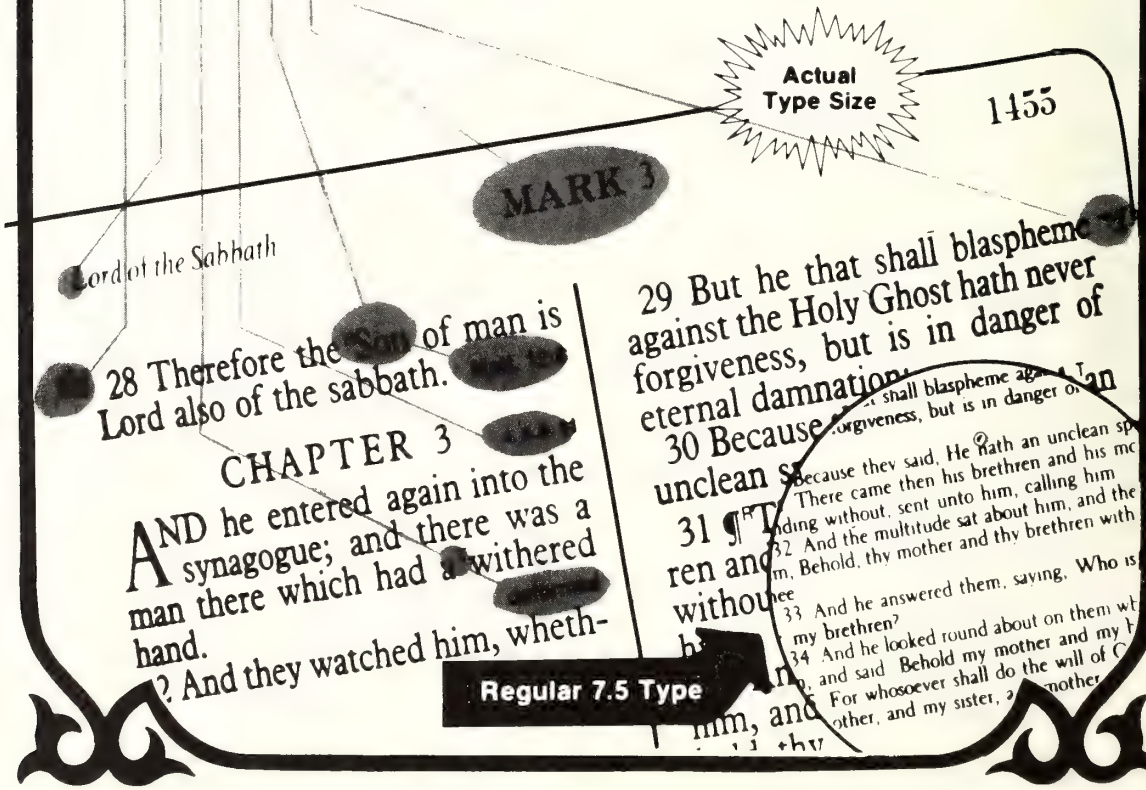
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On Sale in December for $16.65 at All Our Bookstores

Truly the *most* unique and *most* useful verse reference Giant Print Bible available. Especially designed for all those requiring larger print. Printed on the finest of Bible Paper.

SPECIAL FEATURES:

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- **Chapter Headings Dated**
- **"R" Indicates Reference at End of Verse.**
- **Center Page Chapter References**
- **(Dove) Marginal References to the Holy Spirit**



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The P.B.I. Story

The Free Will Baptist

EDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1981, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

PALAWAN BIBLE INSTITUTE FACULTY AND STAFF

Palawan, Philippines



Celebrating the Birth of the Best . . .

A window found in a house atop Mount Tom in Massachusetts contains four panes of glass, each a different color. The rolling hills of the countryside take on the appearance of autumn whenever viewed through the brown pane; the blue cast projected from an adjacent piece of glass suggests winter. The hills are adorned with the youthfulness of spring when viewed through the green pane; and everyone reminisces about some summer sunset years ago when looking out the red glass. But the same Berkshire Hills are in view all the while. So it is with Christmas. One man, greedy for financial gain, sees the season as a time for exploitation; the sensuous man views the holiday as a time of indulgence. Another may think of nothing but getting gifts.

For weeks now we have been exhorted on almost every front to avail ourselves of the "perfect" Christmas gift—the "cube" few can work; the computer game guaranteed to challenge (but be sure you use the right kind of batteries or your fun might not last too long!); the latest fashions; that video disk player without which, we are warned, any family is doomed to ostracism. What in the world, it may be asked, does all of this have to do with the Advent of Christ? Surely we must reply, not much!

Beyond and above all else, Christmas is God's inexpressible gift of love, and brotherhood, and good will, and Christ—and we must never forget this! But aren't Christians as guilty as everyone else of secularizing the season? Maybe we need to review Henry van Dyke's words about Christmas before continuing.

> *Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties to the foreground; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.*

Christmas, the day we celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ, is much more than a celebration of the good—it is the celebration of the Best, for at Christmas God granted the Best. "He spared not His Son." Our tradition of gift-giving is the result of God's giving gifts to His children. He made the world and continues to give us the gifts of loving friends, smiling children, the beauties of the changing seasons, the promise of day and the rest night brings, and hope in a world of depair. But He did not stop there; He offers salvation. Our all-resourceful God, with nothing greater to give, gave Jesus. God has gone the limit; He has given His all; He has given His

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The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Joe Ingram

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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THE P. B. I. STORY

by C. F. Bowen
Chairman, Foreign Missions Board

"PALAWAN Bible Institute and these buildings are a testimony that there is a God who acts in the course of human history. To that God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we dedicate this institution to His service and glory forever and ever."

Thus said Missionary Fred Baker, president of Palawan Bible Institute, on March 20, 1981, on the occasion of the dedication of P.B.I. in the Philippines. This was the fruition of many months of work and prayer and sacrifice, and the outcome was a Bible institute that has met vital needs in the lives of Filipino students—a Bible institute established by Free Will Baptists on the Island of Palawan.

And no one else was more qualified or deserving to make that dedication than Fred Baker. But let us go back to the beginning.

Palawan Bible Institute had its beginning in the same way other such institutions began: in the mind of someone with a dream, in this case Missionary Wayne King, at that time director of the Philippine mission field. The dream and the plan were followed through by a visit of Director Joseph Ingram, who arrived in the Philippines during February, 1978. The King-Ingram concerted planning, along with that of the Filipino ministers, was given approval by the North Carolina Board of Foreign Missions upon the return of Director Ingram.

COMMAND, the official paper of the Board, issued this statement in its March-April 1978 issue:

> "The Palawan Bible Institute (P.B.I.) will be established in the near future, a needed project to train our national pastors there. Wayne King submitted an elaborate plan for this institute which was . . . approved by the board . . . ."

On October 21, 1978, Fred and Linda Baker were commissioned as missionaries to the Philippines and sailed for Palawan the next day. With their subsequent involvement, the Institute was given one of its most significant thrusts. It was apparently destined that they would be the ones who would ultimately bring the Institute, step by step, to what it is today.

The thrust of the Bakers' influence became more clearly apparent following the resignation of Wayne and Deborah King and their return to the states in the spring of 1980. The Bakers were left with the full responsibility of developing the school as God gave them leadership.

Before the Kings left, however, the Institute was officially opened for business on June 13, 1979, its first classes held that day with six students—four girls and two men. By the summer of that year, the student body had grown to ten. The Bakers and the Kings were carrying the teaching load. Fred Baker wrote: "It's good to be on Palawan and finally starting the school. Basically everything has been good—just busy. Both students and faculty are already being blessed by this ministry."

Carrying on the work of the school following the Kings' return to North Carolina, Fred gave this encouraging report in the summer of 1980: "Our second year of operation at P.B.I. will begin June 16. We are believing God to enable us to complete the dormitories by that date. God has been moving in wonderful ways from the beginning of this project . . . ."

At that time he was engaged in an extensive building program for the school, adding much needed space for teaching and housing. This program was made possible by many churches and individuals who responded to the call for financial assistance. An example of such responses was the splendid pledge of an annual gift of $3,000 by the Black Jack Church in Pitt County, whose pastor is the Rev. Cedric Pierce. In January 1981 ground was broken for still another building, with construction following immediately.

Numerically speaking, P.B.I. does not rank with older and larger similar institutes. However, with the beginning of the third trimester on September 28, 1981, there were

(Turn the Page)

twenty-one students, reflecting a 100 percent increase from the beginning in 1979. Others will be added as our funds for the Institute increase and as we remain faithfully in prayer for Fred and his staff, and for the success of their endeavors.

In summary, we offer the reasons for P.B.I.—the causes for its existence:

1. To instill a greater desire to learn more about the Word of God, that its Filipino pastors might more faithfully proclaim its teachings.

2. To establish a more stable loyalty to the Free Will Baptist Church, thus assuring both the school and the denomination that what we invest there will be safe and secure.

3. To develop stronger denominational leaders among the Filipino nationals—the pastors, mission workers, and others.

4. To help make our churches in the Philippines more self-supporting.

5. To develop the WHOLE servant of God, helping converts not only to learn the Word of God but also to develop their skills in farming, carpentry, mechanics, health care, and other services vital to the growth of any missionary endeavor.

Palawan Bible Institute is YOUR school; be as proud of it as you would any other institution we have. Give to foreign missions that the school might grow, even beyond the horizons now envisioned. Pray for its success. And share in the victory that will surely be the reward of all our—and their —efforts.

MISSION-MINDED CHURCHES GROW!

SECOND ANNUAL FOUNDATION DAY

Palawan Bible Institute celebrated its Second Annual Foundation Day on October 22 and 23. The two-day event was enjoyed by all who attended. We were delighted to have all of the churches represented and also a group of believers visiting from Quezon, Palawan.

The opening ceremony was begun by singing of favorite hymns. After the welcome, Fred Baker brought the morning message. Everyone moved outside for the singing of the National Anthem and raising of the flag.

The players were divided into teams and the games were officially opened by Brother Andrino Segay, president of the Student Body. Competition was enjoyed in basketball, volleyball, and races in both men and women's divisions.

The main event was held on Thursday night. This was a play of the life of Saul including his conversion on the road to Damascus. This was performed for all of our guests by the Palawan Bible Institute students. Much work had been put into the program and costumes. It was an outstanding performance.

On Friday, the championships were played and the awards were presented. Everyone was tired but happy.

Foundation Day is a time when we all draw aside to remind ourselves and to tell others of the wonderful thing God has done in giving the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines, a training center in Palawan Bible Institute. It is a time of saying "Thank you," God.

Respectfully submitted,
The Baker Family

DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

You have two good reasons for sending your generous foreign mission offerings this month:

1. It is your opportunity to recognize the true purpose of the Christmas season by helping give the gospel of Christ to a lost world.

2. Your generous gift to foreign missions will say to our new Missions Director, the Rev. Harold Jones, "We are with you, and our special offering says so."

Until further notice, send all foreign mission gifts to the Foreign Missions Board, Box 979, Goldsboro, NC 27530.



Sitting on the Promises of God

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

I don't hear it much anymore, but when I was a boy, we sang with verve and gospel beat the song *"Standing on the Promises."* After each stanza, the congregation swung into the chorus as if that was what they were waiting for. The harmony of blended voices of men, women and children gave richness as we finished off with that grand crescendo of faith, "I'm standing on the promises of God!" I'm not sure that I understood the implication of what I was singing, but its subliminal force lodged deep in my soul.

The words stir me now as I think of them, though these days we don't seem to be singing or talking much about the promises of God. Oh, we don't disbelieve them, but the prevalent pessimism is hardly compatible with eternal promises. When dark reality contradicts bright hope, the status quo usually wins out.

It seems there is more sitting—than standing—on the promises. The posture is a languid and listless one. No anticipation; no confidence. Little wonder, then, that we have become a generation of worriers. And most of the worry is not about real things, but about imagined and feared catastrophes, both personal and global. We go Jesus' admonition from the Sermon on the Mount one better, for we are anxious not only about the morrow (Matthew 6:34) but also about the moment—and the next millennium if time should last so long.

We inflict upon ourselves the demons of tomorrow's anxieties and then throw ourselves on the psychiatrist's couch to get them exorcised.

There is a fine line, I admit, between constructive concern, which God's people need, and destructive anxiety, which they do not. We were never promised a highway home without hurdles, hardships and hurts—only that, unfailingly, there would be Someone within reach. In a universe filled with black holes, uncountable galaxies, cosmic endlessness, that is no small comfort.

The tender shepherd psalm does make this unqualified statement: "I shall not want," but there is no promise that the path to pasture will avoid the barren place, the lonely wilderness, or the deep valley. Only that the Shepherd Lord will lead through every place the sheep is called to go. In the midst of some present personal tragedy, it is confidence in the Shepherd's leading which tempers anxiety with patience. I am certain that where He is taking me is far more important than where I am.

We confuse *want* with *wants*. The translation in the *Good News Bible* helps straighten it out: "The Lord is my Shepherd; I have everything I need." Our expectation levels are easily lured from needs to wants. And some people will tell us there is no difference. If you want it, they assure us, God wants us to have it. These purveyors of an all-this-and-Heaven-too theology are exploiting to a fare-thee-well the naive and childish materialistic attitudes which afflict so many. If God delivered everything these pious charlatans promise, earth would have more treasure than Heaven.

Expecting more of God than we have any right to expect can cause spiritual smugness if we get it, disillusion if we don't. But the other side of that is equally important. Not expecting of God what we should expect takes away the very means God has given us to cope with whatever comes.

We may as well admit it. By ourselves, in our own strength, we simply can't cope. Life is too complicated, too overwhelming. The boughs upon which we think to rest securely prove too fragile. Savings. Investments. Relationships. Community. Nation. Which of them is substantial enough to carry our weight? Inflation erodes the savings of a lifetime. High interest rates make it difficult to buy—or sell—a home. There is lessening personal security; nowadays, thieves do more than break through and steal. They terrorize whole cities.

As a nation, we appear to be placing our trust increasingly in armaments, a bough that millennia of world history have repeatedly demonstrated to be

(Continued on Page 15)



NOVEMBER CDYF MEETING HELD



The November meeting of the Central District Youth Fellowship (CDYF) was held at Daniels Chapel Church, Wilson, on November 21. The Rev. Joe Ingram, former director of the Foreign Missions work of the North Carolina State Convention, presented the program. He spoke concerning "planned famines," a means whereby money is raised for world relief. Doris Davis, Gene Maddrey, and Scott Davis are seen above looking at available resources for the program.

The next meeting of the CDYF will be held January 16, at Marlboro Church, Farmville.

Pastor Appreciation Day For Lee's Chapel Church

Lee's Chapel Church, Route 5, Dunn, honored its pastor, the Rev. Henry Armstrong, on November 1, with a pastor appreciation day. As Mr. Armstrong was about to begin his message, Shelia Jackson announced that the church had chosen that day to honor their pastor for his 17 years of service there.

Mrs. Jackson presented the pastor with a check from the Alyne Elmore Circle and the Woman's Auxiliary. A pewter bowl was presented to him from the Sunday school classes.

Following the presentation, Pattie Godwin sang "His Task," in which she was accompanied by pianist Libby Elmore.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong expressed their appreciation to the members of the congregation as they were leaving.

Piney Grove Church To Have Series

A four weeks' study on "Prophecy" will be taught by the Rev. Allan Sterbin, pastor, on Sunday nights at 7 p.m., at Piney Grove Church, Pitt County, beginning January 3 and continuing each Sunday night through January 24. On the last night the film, "Thief in the Night" will be shown.

Anyone interested in this study is invited to attend.

Continued Progress at Palmer Memorial Church



The Rev. Dewey Boling, Mrs. Boling, Mrs. Stanley, and the Rev. Stanley standing beside Mr. Stanley's Model A Ford.

On March 15, 1981, the Rev. Dewey C. Boling began his ministry at Palmer Memorial Church in Garner, North Carolina, by issuing challenges to the people to love and serve

the Lord better if they wanted to enjoy their Christianity to the fullest extent. New members began to be added, backsliding members were reclaimed, and many who had become inactive became active again.

Soon the pews were padded, adding beauty and comfort to the sanctuary. Learning of the church debt, Mr. Boling issued a challenge to the various groups in the church to consider projects to raise money toward paying off the church debt next July. The date, November 22, was set aside as Old Fashion Day with a harvest offering. During September, October, and November, the different groups began working on their projects with vigor and good fellowship. As the people began arriving for the service, everyone realized they were in for a great day in the Lord. Many came in their old fashioned dress and seemed to recapture the olden days when God's people enjoyed each other and had a longing in their hearts to praise God in sermon and in song. Water buckets and a gourd dipper were used in the service, with children sleeping on pallets around the altar as they did in olden days. The adult choir rendered some special songs and the Norris family sang, "Thank You Lord for Your Blessings on Me." The processional offering began with the various groups coming and placing their offering in the large basket, telling the amounts raised. This amounted to $4,800. Then the rest of the congregation came and placed their offerings in the basket, making the total amount of $8,300.64. By this time, Mr. Boling was spiritually fired up. Everyone enjoyed his sermon on the four things to thank God for: (1) our country, (2) our homes, (3) our church, and (4) our Saviour. Lunch was served in the fellowship hall and many said the attendance for the day was the greatest in many years.

This was a wonderful day in the Lord at Palmer Memorial Church, one that will be long remembered by the people. It is the desire of Mr. Boling to see the church debt retired next July. The Rev. R. W. Allman, the man most responsible for Palmer Memorial being what it is will have the privilege of preaching the sermon and burning the note. Please pray for Mr. and Mrs. Boling as they labor for the Lord at Palmer Memorial Church.

Happenings at Marlboro Church



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnard, Shanna, and Jeffrey, visited Marlboro Church, Sunday night, November 22. After a covered dish supper, Mr. Barnard delivered the evening message. Speaking about his call to the mission field, he challenged all present to greater service.

The annual Christmas program at Marlboro Church will be presented Sunday evening, December 20, at 7:30 p.m. The program will begin with readings and skits given by children from the church. The adult choir will present "An Old Fashioned Christmas," a cantata written by Don Wrytzen, at the conclusion of the program.

The young people of the church will present a Pre-Christmas prayer service on Monday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m. They will perform the musical "Christmas Fever" at that time. Everyone is invited to attend these services.



SUPERANNUATED WIDOWS, MINISTERS, WORKERS, AND RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIST

Remember these persons who have served the Free Will Baptist church so faithfully during the past years. Perhaps you will want to remember them on their birthdays or during the special holidays.

	MINISTERS' PENSION LIST	*(Birthdays)*
Rev. Herman Wooten	104 Avery Street, Garner, NC 27529	February 15, 1893
Rev. Wiley Ferrell	616 Tower Street, Selma, NC 27576	September 27, 1902
	DENOMINATIONAL WORKERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM RECIPIENTS	
Rev. J. P. Barrow	7934 Charlotte Pike, Nashville, TN 37209	October 26, 1889
Rev. L. S. Joyner	1220 Lynn Road, Durham, NC 27703	November 5, 1905
Rev. J. A. Evans	Route 1, Box 100-C, Seven Springs, NC 28578	November 10, 1905
Rev. Willie E. Stilley	Route 6, Box 180, New Bern, NC 28560	July 28, 1909
Rev. L. B. Manning	Box 163, Fountain, NC 27829	May 13, 1900
Mr. Wade Long	727 Fairmont Village, Ayden, NC 28513	June 21, 1909
Rev. R. W. Allman	901 Danbury Drive, Durham, NC 27703	December 25, 1908
Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark	904 Midway Avenue, Durham, NC 27703	January 16, 1910
Mrs. Alice Barrow	Route 2, Snow Hill, NC 28580	August 15, 1911
Rev. N. B. Barrow	Route 2, Snow Hill, NC 28580	October 23, 1911
Rev. Clifton T. Rice	Box 1303, Kinston, NC 28501	January 9, 1907
Rev. Edgar Benton	Route 1, Box 395-A, Fremont, NC 27830	September 26, 1911
Mr. Ralph A. Bowen	Route 1, Box 394, Ayden, NC 28513	March 5, 1914
Rev. C. L. Patrick	Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, NC 28590	August 17, 1911
Rev. W. O. Lassiter	Route 3, Box 65, Four Oaks, NC 27524	October 4, 1912
Rev. R. T. Sasser	517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, NC 27893	March 8, 1912
Rev. N. D. Beaman	Route 4, Box 400, Snow Hill, NC 28580	October 27, 1909
Rev. Carol Hansley	Box 790, Hibbs Road, Newport, NC 28570	December 19, 1914
Rev. Dewey C. Boling	712 East Horne Street, Clayton, NC 27520	October 7, 1918
Rev. L. B. Woodall Jr.	Route 2, Box 129-A, Princeton, NC 27569	November 21, 1915
Rev. F. B. Cherry	Box 280, Pine Level, NC 27568	April 15, 1916
Rev. Eddie Edwards	308 Old Midway Road, Rockingham, NC 28379	September 20, 1917
	WIDOWS' PENSION LIST	
Mrs. Duffy Toler	131 North Eastern Street, Greenville, NC 27834	February 8, 1884
Mrs. Julia W. Snyder	718 First Rainbow Street, Lexington, NC 27292	August 25, 1896
Mrs. Mary J. Parrish	Box 43, Elm City, NC 27822	September 23, 1903
Mrs. W. H. Lancaster	405 Raleigh Road, Smithfield, NC 27577	August 2, 1899

"EL EVANGELIO DE CHRISTO ES BUENAS NOTICIAS"

(The Gospel of Christ Is Good News)

by Vance and Mattie Link

Each week from the radio station in Allende, Coah, Brother Israel sends forth the message that the gospel is indeed good news. To know that God loves us, that He died for us and is willing to save us from the penalty and power of sin, is the only message that can change and transform the life of man. Each Sunday morning at eight this message is proclaimed. Through the help of God's faithful and believing people the funds have been supplied to keep this program on the air in Mexico.

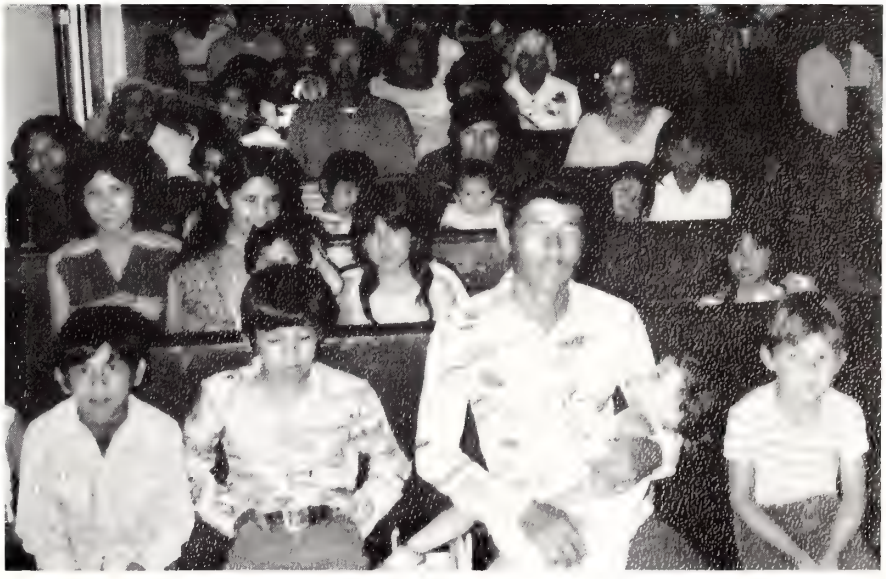
During the past year, for a short time, Satan led in an attack upon the religious programs on the radio and they were banned for a while. But as usual, when God's people pray and believe, things happen. God moved in the hearts of those in authority and once again religious programs were allowed to continue.

The radio program reaches a radius of approximately fifty miles. During a typical radio program they receive some fifteen calls for various reasons: for prayer, for spiritual advice, or to ask someone to help lead them in accepting Christ. Brother Israel reports that they receive some five to ten letters weekly in response to the program as people write for prayers, to ask for more information about Jesus, or just to share that they have received Christ as Saviour.

Continue to pray for this ministry as Christ is presented as the only hope for a dying people. Pray that the Holy Spirit will use the message of His Word to reach the hearts of those living in spiritual darkness.

Brother Israel is pastor in Allende. Pictured here is the newly finished front of his church, *El Buen Samaritano Bautista De Libre Voluntad Templo* (The Good Samaritan Free Will Baptist Church). Also you see one of the evening services and the attendance. Pray for Brother Israel and the Lord's work in this area.





Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS



Three $100 scholarships were presented at each of the Mount Olive College Dinners held this year throughout eastern North Carolina. Here, Dr. Burkette Raper, president, (left) presents the scholarships awarded at the Johnston-Wake Dinner to (from left to right) La Verne Yawn Carter of Everett Chapel for having the most high school students present, Delano Whittington of Palmer Memorial for also having the most high school students present, and Bobby Stephenson of Hopewell Church for giving the largest amount and for giving the most per capita at the 1981 dinner.

The Johnston-Wake County Dinner provided a total of $21,589 in gift support for Mount Olive College—the largest amount donated at any of the 1981 dinners.

Leonard B. Woodall and Mike Scott served as co-chairmen of the Johnston-Wake Dinner.

SIX YEARS' CERTIFICATES

Members of the Mount Olive College faculty, staff, and board of trustees who have been with the college for six years were presented certificates of appreciation during Founder's Day services recently by chairman of the board of trustees James B. Hunt Sr., left. Front row, left to right, are Hunt, cafeteria worker Kitty H. Brogden, and board member Fred A. Rivenbark. Back row, left to right, are board member C. Felton Godwin, vice-president for finance James Coats, and board member James Charles Boyd.



REPORT ON CHURCH DINNERS

Contributions by Free Will Baptist Churches and friends through the Mount Olive College Dinners totaled $150,414 for 1981. This figure represents an increase of $5,797 over last year.

Jean Ackiss, associate director of development, said that she would like to express her appreciation to everyone "whose services and contributions helped make the Mount Olive College dinners a success."

Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, also commented that "contributions through these dinners have been a significant factor in the growth and development of the college. These gifts have helped to make possible the development program on our campus and have also helped to prepare for the transition to senior-college status."

A total of 3,935 people attended the seventeen annual dinners held throughout eastern North Carolina. This figure represents an increase of seventy-three people over the number who attended the 1980 dinners.

The following chart represents an overall view of the 1981 dinners.

County or Area	Attendance	Gifts	Chairmen
Beaufort	250	$ 7,611	Steve Hargrove
Carteret	229	7,612	David Ward
Craven	245	9,145	Marice DeBruhl
Duplin	177	8,760	Fitzgerald Bostic
Edgecombe-Halifax	140	5,897	Rufus Harrell
Greene	170	9,588	George Harrison
Johnston-Wake	650	21,589	Leonard Woodall Mike Scott
Jones	79	2,844	Mildred Jenkins
Lenoir	185	5,813	Stanley Jenkins
Nash	142	3,190	Lester Duncan
Onslow-New Hanover, Brunswick	150	1,830	O. B. Taylor
Pamlico	112	7,046	Tom Caroon
Pitt	312	13,893	Leon Harris
Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland	270	7,821	C. Felton Godwin
Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, Chowan	195	4,811	David Cahoon
Wayne	275	17,489	Louise Edgerton
Wilson	354	15,475	James B. Hunt Sr.
Grand Total (17 Counties)	3,935	$150,414	

Since the dinners were begun in 1963, they have been the means of $1,479,186 in gifts to Mount Olive College.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Mount Olive College will hold a Financial Aid Workshop on Saturday, January 23, to assist prospective students and their parents in applying for all types of financial aid: workshops, Federal and State grants, loans and work study.

The workshop is not restricted to students who plan to attend Mount Olive College but is a service to students who plan to enter any college in the fall of 1982. There will be no registration fee. The workshop will begin at 9:45 a.m. in the Henderson Building on the New Campus and will end at noon.

COLLEGE TV PROGRAM

Christmas Carousel will be televised on WITN-TV (Channel 7, Washington) on Christmas Eve at 11 p.m. The program will feature the Mount Olive Chorus and Singers.

SPRING SEMESTER AT MOC

Applications are now being received for the spring semester which begins January 12 and ends May 5. New and transferring, resident, and commuting students are being accepted. The College will be glad to assist any qualified and worthy Free Will Baptist students with financial aid up to the level of his/her need.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Dear Fellow Christians,

It's that time of the year again—you know, it's Christmastime. Please take a moment and consider the following thoughts.

What is Christmas all about? I believe it is best stated by these two Scriptures: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16), and "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law" (Galatians 4:4). The dictionary defines Christmas this way: "the yearly celebration, December 25, of the birth of Jesus Christ."

Now we would not go so far as to say that December 25 is the exact date of the birth of Christ, but it is the time when we acknowledge that God gave a world lost in sin His only begotten Son, to live a sinless life and die on the Cross shedding His blood that a world lost in sin could be saved by placing their faith in Him.

So here is my point: Should we not leave Christ in Christmas? He's been taken out of the schools and out of the government and other places; now the world wants to take Him out of Christmas. Just look around us today. Who or what do we see being lifted up and

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 11:1-10

CHRISTMAS—THAT MAGIC CARPET!

Christmas—that magic carpet that wraps itself about us, that something so intangible that it is like a fragrance. It may weave a spell of nostalgia. Christmas may be a day of feasting, or of prayer, but always it will be a day of remembrance—a day in which we think of everything we have ever loved. Then we realize that He who has led us down through the labyrinth of years, born two thousand years ago, showed us the way, saying that we would have peace on earth if we love one another.

There was a gift for each of us left under the tree of life two thousand years ago by Him whose birthday we celebrate today. The gift was withheld from no man. Some have left the packages unclaimed. Some have accepted the gift and carry it around, but have failed to remove the wrappings and look inside to discover the hidden splendour. The packages are all alike: in each is a scroll on which is written, "All that the Father hath is thine." Take and live!

PRAYER THOUGHT

In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel (Isaiah 4:2).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 40:1-11

I AM THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

I sweep across oceans, through dark continents, into cities, into the country, into rich homes, into poor homes, into the hearts of those far away from home—into everyone's life all over the world. I go with a speed that is so well timed that I am in all parts of the world in one week's time.

People know I am coming long before I actually arrive, and big, little, old and young, black, white, brown and yellow plan for my arrival. I am the most contagious thing on the face of the earth, and if it were in the mind of anyone to try to stop me, no power, no vaccine, no order from any government could check me. When I come I touch all lives and everyone is inoculated so that he, too, breaks out with a thorough case of me. There is no way to immunize the soul against me.

But the strange part of it is that no one wants to fight against my ravages of human hearts anywhere in all the world. Instead, people plan for me long weeks before I arrive. All kinds of plans are laid for my coming; homes, schools, churches, business houses, governments talk of my coming and lay plans for my reception. They well know that I will cost them dearly in money, in time, in strain—in many ways, and yet old and young alike plan for my coming with an eagerness and a quickened heart pulse. However much of a Scrooge anyone tries to be, I come and I inject my spirit into his heart where it immediately begins to grow.

Over and above all the things and the wonderful spirit which I bring into existence, I bring to every human being the greatest hope of the world—Jesus.

PRAYER THOUGHT

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep (John 10:11).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Luke 1:26-33

FEAR NOT

Not to the priest in the temple of old,
Not to the king in his palace of gold,
Not to the famous—the men of the hour,
Not to the great with their might and their power;
But to the shepherds alone in the night
God sent His glorious angels of light,
Bearing their tidings, so blessed and true,
"Fear not! a Saviour is born unto you."
Not to the men who in arrogant pride
March ever on over life's surging tide;
Not to the boastful who make their life's aim
Only to seek after worldly acclaim;

But to the humble, the meek, and the low,
When in the night of great trial and woe,
God sends His Spirit to whisper anew,
"Fear not! Your Saviour abideth with you!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

. . . Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—Malachi 3:1-6

IN A STABLE

A London city missionary went into a stable and began to talk to a jockey about the salvation of his soul.

"This is no place to talk religion, so there's an end of it!" exclaimed the jockey.

"Oh, no, that's not the end of it; it's only the beginning," said the missionary. "Christianity began in a stable. Jesus Christ was born in a stable, and you can be born again in one."

PRAYER THOUGHT

For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee (Matthew 11:10).

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—Luke 2:1-20

I PITY YOU PALEFACES!

An aged Indian woman spoke in her native tongue at a Christmas service for the benefit of the Indians who were present. Then she turned to the English-speaking people and said in English, "I have told my people the story of the birth of Christ. It is a wonderful story! Do you know, I pity you palefaces. You never knew the astonishment and wonderment that I felt when I heard this story for the first time! You have always been familiar with it. It says nothing special to you. My best Christmas wish for you is that you may be moved again by the glory of the gospel, as if you were hearing it for the first time, so that Christ may really be born in your hearts as in mine!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 2:1-12

STAR OF THE EAST

Star of the East, that long ago
Brought wise men on their way
Where, angels singing to and fro,
The Child of Bethlehem lay—
Above the Syrian hill afar
Thou shinest out tonight, O Star!

Star of the East! Show us the way
In wisdom undefiled
To seek that manger out and lay
Our gifts before the Child—
To bring our hearts and offer them
Unto our King in Bethlehem!

PRAYER THOUGHT

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts (2 Peter 1:19).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 9:2-7

A NEWBORN BABE GIVES SIGHT TO OTHERS

An obstetrician approached an anxious father in a waiting room of a New York City hospital and said, "I am sorry to inform you, but your baby lived but two hours after its birth, though we did everything we could to save its life." As the sympathetic doctor was about to leave, the quick thinking father said, "I read only recently that human eyes are needed in corneal operations. Could my baby's eyes be used to enable someone to see again?" The next day the Red Cross carried an eye each to two different hospitals. In one, a corneal graft restored the sight of a working man with a large family. In the other, sight was given to a mother. A babe, who lived only two hours, gave physical sight to a grateful father and a mother. Some 2,000 years ago a Babe came into our sin-darkened world to give spiritual sight to all who will receive it without money and without price. At His coming, "the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee (Isaiah 60:1).

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

JESUS—Light in a Sin-Darkened World





JESUS AS MESSIAH

Lesson Text: Mark 8:27-29
Memory Verse: John 1:41

I. INTRODUCTION

It had been more than two years since Jesus had put up the carpenter tools, cleared off His workbench, and walked alone to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. So much had happened during that time. Once He was known only in Nazareth, but now He was known throughout all of Palestine. Most of the populace knew about Him, His teachings, and His miracles. Throngs followed Him, making it difficult for Him to rest or be alone.

He had miraculously fed five thousand men plus women and children, probably around ten thousand people (Matthew 14:13-21). The next day, the crowd returned expecting another handout (John 6: 22-26); but Jesus told them they needed to believe in Him, not get more food from Him (6:27-29). While bread sustains a temporary physical life, Jesus is that eternal bread that keeps a person alive forever (6:35), but the people did not want Him on His terms. After He preached this sermon on the bread of life, many deserted Him (6:66).

Jesus' popularity was on the skids, and in the coming weeks it would go down further. He knew the Cross in all its reality was looming ahead of Him, and He no doubt wondered if He would have any followers left by that time. Would anyone understand who He was and be committed to Him enough to carry on His redemptive mission into all the world?

With these thoughts in mind, Jesus took His disciples to Caesarea Philippi for a retreat. En route to this location two significant, though brief, things happened.

Many people turned away from Jesus because of the teachings of the Pharisees. Their opposition was getting tougher and tougher as time went on; soon the Pharisees would wage some powerful attacks upon Jesus. Jesus warned His disciples to beware of the teachings of the Pharisees (Mark 8:15). The twelve apostles had declared their intentions not to go along with the deserting crowds (John 6:67-69), but they would not be able to keep that commitment if they listened to the Pharisees. Would the twelve stay tuned into Jesus? He knew that would depend upon their depth of faith in Him.

The second happening was the healing of a blind man (Mark 8:22-26). Jesus touched this man twice in healing him. After the first touch, the man saw people as trees (v. 24). Jesus knew that the man had to see things clearly if he were to live a full life, so Jesus in His compassion touched him again (v. 25). What a great object lesson for His disciples!

They, too, needed to see things clearly. The crowds were going to get nastier; if the disciples saw them only as "trees," as objects, they would not treat them with compassion or be concerned for them in their lives of sin. They might ignore them, become bitter about them, or "cut them down." But in order to see the people properly, the disciples first would have to see Jesus properly. Only then could they see the masses through the eyes of Jesus and reach out to them to meet their needs.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. This is the fourth lesson in the series of seven on the titles given to Jesus.

B. Jesus is the personal name given to our Lord by His mother, Mary, at the direction of the angel to Joseph (Matthew 1:21) and to Mary (Luke 1:31). (It is the Greek form of the Hebrew "Yeshua" or "Joshua," which means, "he will save" or "the Lord will save.") When this name was ordinarily given to a child it showed the faith of the parents in God as the Saviour of the people. But when it was given to the son of Mary it was to express the special office He would fulfill. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

C. The word "Messiah" is derived from the Hebrew for "anointed one"; its Greek equivalent is "Christ." Priests and kings were anointed; see Leviticus 4:3, 5, 16. God promised David that He would establish the throne of his descendants forever (2 Samuel 7:12, 13). The Prophet Daniel gave the title "Messiah" to the One who would restore Jerusalem (8:24-26). When we speak of Him as the Messiah, we mean that Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, was the promised seed of David who would inherit the throne of David forever.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

best—the Best! In His creativity, He gave us life; because of His morality, He gave us the Law; through His mercy, He gave Jesus. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given."

Someone has said that "lilies, when they fester, smell worse than weeds." It is the trivializing, the tainting of the best that constitutes the worst. The celebration of Christmas is reduced to a mockery unless there is obedience to the Saviour, the Christ Child born on a "holy night" long ago in Bethlehem.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

(Continued from Page 11)

exalted—Christ or Santa Claus? Christ or commercialism? You know the answer if you will be honest. Just look at the window signs and billboards. What do you see?—Merry Xmas, the excuse being there is not enough room to spell out Christmas completely. It sounds like the same excuse which Mary and Joseph received (see Luke 2:7) when they were told there was no room for Jesus. How sad it is today to say that the same is still true; there still is no room for Jesus as a whole even at a time set aside to recognize His birth. To me this is like having a birthday party for someone and not inviting that person to come. That seems to be what the whole world wants—a time to party and have a good time, but they seldom take the time to think about what Christmas is.

Christians, let's leave Christ in our Christmas. Let's let our children and others know what Christmas is really about. Jesus said in John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

Now we know that He was speaking of His death on the Cross and yet even today if we as His children will lift Him up before the world, men will be drawn unto Him. Are we at Christmastime going to lift Him up or "X" Him out, and so far as that goes, at anytime, not only at Christmas? Here is something for you to think about as Christmas comes this year.

Donald Walston

SITTING ON THE PROMISES OF GOD

(Continued from Page 5)

very insecure indeed. Family and personal relationships shatter. Children leave home or return home. Health deteriorates. Loved ones die. Things don't work out as we anticipated.

When the boughs break, if there are no wings, there is nothing.

Martin Luther, who knew something about standing on the promises, expressed it another way: "I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."

Risky? Sure. Luther understood the riskiness when, before the Diet of Worms, accused of heresy, he could say only: "Here I stand. I can do no other. So help me God."

That kind of affirmation comes from standing, not sitting, on the promises.

Have you checked out your posture lately?—*Stan Mooneyham*

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (October, 1981).

COMING EVENTS

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Contion as Foreign Missions Month

December 18—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina

December 19—Christmas Holidays Begin, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

December 25—Christmas Day

NO BAPTIST

In accordance with our policy of printing only forty-eight issues of *The Free Will Baptist* each year, there will not be an edition on December 30. Our last issue for the year, our Christmas one, will be dated December 23.

ATTENTION

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention will meet January 21, 1981, at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

Gary Bailey, *Secretary*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Billy R. Nowell announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 2, Box 103, Four Oaks, North Carolina 27524. His old address was 1439 Thermal Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28212.

It's His Birthday . . . .

FREE WILL BAPTIST
DURHAM, NC 27706



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Christmas

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The Free Will Baptist

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December 23, 1981
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice-President; Robert May, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Dewey C. Boling, and Willis Wilson.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, **Manager;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

The Shepherds Said . . .

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another . . . (Luke 2:15).

Have you ever wondered just what the shepherds did say? Were their words similar to ours the day after Christmas? For weeks we anticipate the holidays. We buy gifts and cards, attend parties, decorate our homes, sing carols, and contribute to a number of special causes; our hearts are filled with the spirit of good will and cheer. It is a happy time—and for too many, a time soon over.

Now just imagine the shepherds could have responded, "Well, that was a thrilling experience. The heavenly choir and the words of the angels stirred our hearts; but let's come back down to earth. We have sheep to watch!" (Sound familiar? Our excuse goes like this: "Well, it's time to wash all the dishes and clean the house. The bills have to be paid, you know; and we have really neglected so many things these past few days.")

Because of our attitudes, I can see the following scene taking place years after that first Christmas: An aged shepherd is seated, talking with his grandson, who just happens to be sitting on his knee. "Many years ago when I was just a young man, I was out on the Judean hills one night with a group of shepherds. While we were watching our flocks, an angel appeared and the glory of Heaven shone all around us. Soon, we were really afraid. Even though this was a long, long time ago, I remember what that angel said; I remember it as well as if it happened yesterday. He said, 'Fear not . . . for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord . . . You will find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' "

The old shepherd's lips cease to move and a silence befalls the room. "What happened then, Granddaddy? Tell me more," the young boy insists. After no reply was given within a few minutes, the boy continued, "What did you do then? Was what the angel said true? Was the Christ Child born that night?"

Shaking his white head the shepherd sadly replies, "I don't know, Son, I never went to see. Some say the whole thing is a myth. Others say they found in that Babe the light of God, the power for life. But I've never been quite sure. I never did go to see."

The tragedy of Christmas is that its real meaning is unknown or completely neglected by so many. Millions who celebrate Christmas, the birthday of our King, and live by a calendar that reckons time by His birth, do not know Him. How tragic; they do not know that (even before Hallmark began boasting) God cared enough to send the very Best, He sent His Son that we might have life. May we never forget this.

With this in mind, we offer this very special issue of *The Free Will Baptist.* It is our desire that everyone know the gospel of Jesus Christ, and we spread that good news through the printed page. For the past 15 years our endeavors have

(Continued on Page 19)

Christmas Menagerie

HUMBLE AND OBSCURE

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

"AND she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7).

Are we like the innkeeper? Do our crowded days at Christmastime leave any room for Jesus? December brings us again to the celebration of Christ's birth. The Christian world pauses to give respect to the Christ Child that was born in Bethlehem some two thousand years ago. From the greatest to the least we honor His birth with one accord. How wonderful the celebrations have become to most of us. Many people have developed a variety of traditions to add to the meaning of Christmas. What a contrast this is to the record of Jesus' birth recorded in Matthew and in Luke. Try as we may to surround the event with glory and beauty, we can accurately understand the Gospels only when we realize the humility and the obscurity of the event.

Let's consider first the humility. There was no room for them in the inn, not even a bed. There was only a stable and the prickly straw to lie on. Instead of the fragrance of a spotless room, there was the smell of barnyard animals. There was not the warmth of a fireplace, but there was the chill of the night. It was not a very likely setting to receive the King of kings.



Now let's consider the obscurity. There was not one person there to record the event of the ages. The only ones that came by were a handful of ragged shepherds. The angels could have appeared to the Emperor of Rome, Augustus Caesar. But they appeared to these common men on the hillside of Bethlehem. The wise men came to the scene nearly two years later. King Herod had never heard of the event and it was only about five miles away. Some two-bit crook robbing the local dime store gets more attention. Can anything come from such an obscure beginning? We know that it can, and we know that it did. It happens all the time. In humility and obscurity Christ is born into a heart. Though angels rejoice in Heaven, the world takes little notice of the event. Not even a hint of it appears in the local papers, although it is the greatest news item of the day. One of the wonders of Christmas is that it continues to happen unnoticed. Just as the Son of God stole into the world some two thousand years ago, He steals into the hearts of those that will let Him in.

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,—
Be born in us today."

Let us open our hearts to receive the humble and obscure King of this great universe.



CHARACTERS OF THE CHRISTMAS DRAMA

by Bass Mitchell

The Angels

The picture of the angel and the heavenly host adds in no small way to the wonder, mystery, and beauty of Christmas. The angel was God's messenger sent to announce the glorious good news that God has given to the world "a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." Such an event is so tremendous, so utterly significant that it requires images and messengers that reflect its greatness. The message of the angel, the hymn of the angelic host, call us to celebrate and share in the joy resounding throughout Heaven.

The Shepherds

The shepherds, poor, humble, and looked down on by the religious people were the first to hear about and to see the Christ Child. Only those who are humble, who are conscious of their unworthiness and need can see and hear what the shepherds saw and heard.

Notice their spontaneous trust. The angel announced the good news and immediately they were off to Bethlehem to "see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us" (Luke 2:15). Such trust and obedience are always needed in our lives. Trust His Word! Then go and see for yourself what He can do in your life.

Note their spontaneous sharing of what they had heard and seen (Luke 2:17). If we have truly heard and seen the good news in our lives, we cannot help but share it. What have you seen and heard in your experiences with God? What is your story? Tell it! Share it!

The Wise Men

The wise men or magi were probably astrologers from Persia. They had seen the brilliant star and knew the tradition that such was a sign of the birth of a great King. They were not Jewish but Gentiles, pagans. They had come from afar. Certainly they represent the acknowledgement and tribute of all peoples and nations of the world to the Christ Child. Is it not true that for centuries people from near and far have been drawn to the worship of God's Son? The angel said to the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy which will come to **all people**" (Luke 2:10). The good news is for everyone. The wise men responded with the most precious gifts of their day. What have we given the Christ Child? What do you think He wants?

Herod

Herod the Great is the villainous character of Christmas. He reigned in Palestine first as governor and then as king from 47 to 4 B.C. Although he is noted for such accomplishments as rebuilding the temple and establishing a good degree of peace, he is remembered today solely by his connection with the Child he sought to destroy! Herod was a distrustful and suspicious character. He would tolerate not even the slightest rival to his throne. He quickly eliminated any threat to his position, even two of his sons, Alexander and Aristobulus. Naturally, when the wise men told him about a newborn King of the Jews, he was greatly upset, and sought to get rid of Jesus.

There is some Herod in all of us. The Christ Child comes as a threat to our self-centered lives. He challenges our lifestyles, ideals, position, and goals. He grew into manhood showing in His life the kind of human being God calls us to be. His purity, His love, the complete surrender of His life to God act as a mirror in which we see ourselves as an example by which to change ourselves. How do we try to get rid o

Jesus? Who sits upon the throne in our hearts?

Joseph

Joseph, the legal father of Jesus, is mentioned only a few times in the Gospels. He's not mentioned at all in Mark's Gospel. Perhaps this is because Joseph died before Jesus' ministry began. The genealogies of Jesus in Matthew 1:2-16 and Luke 3:23-38 are traced through Joseph's lineage (Matthew 1:16). From Matthew (13:55) we learn that Joseph was a carpenter, and from both Matthew and Luke we see Joseph portrayed as a faithful, affectionate, and protecting father to Jesus. He was a religious man. In Matthew 1:19 he is called "just" which means that he was a devout servant of God and observer of the Law of Moses. He, no doubt, along with Mary, played an important part in the early training of Jesus. Certainly he worked hard to provide for his family.

Children, honor and respect your father. Listen to his teachings and counsel. He loves you and is making many sacrifices just for you. He wants you to know that you can come and talk with him whenever you have a question or problem. He would give his life to protect you. So, no matter where you go or what you do, let your father never have reason to be anything other than proud of you, and by so-living you will also please your Heavenly Father.

Mary

Each generation indeed has called Mary "blessed!" She represents the beauty of womanhood and motherhood, and the purity of life which comes in obedience to God's will. She responded to Gabriel's message that she would bear the Son of God by saying, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). She is an example of the wholehearted surrender to God's will which we see and hear in Jesus' own life: "Your will be done" (Matthew 6:10).

What joy and abundant living come as a result of such commitment. What glorious things God can do in and through those who completely yield themselves to His will.

"Lord, here is my life. You gave it to me and now I return it to you. Let it be to me according to your word, Amen!"

The Christ Child

We do not know the exact date of Jesus' birth. In the third century it was celebrated on January 6. In the fourth century it was changed to December 25. Perhaps it is good that we do not know. The significance of His birth cannot be confined to any one day. The important question is not when was He born but has He been born and does He continue to be reborn in our lives?

There was no room for Him in that crowded little town so long ago. Is this not a symbol of what still happens today? How much room is there for Jesus in our crowded lives?

The angel said to the shepherds, "**To you** is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). He is **your** Saviour. He is God's personal, precious gift to you. He is a gift which we can always and forever be accepting.

"Lord, I accept the gift of yourself in the Christ Child. May each day find me willing and open to His continual coming into my life. Amen!"

IT'S HIS BIRTHDAY . . .

A BROTHER LIKE THAT

A friend of mine named Paul received a new automobile from his brother as a pre-Christmas present. On Christmas Eve, when Paul came out of his office, a young street urchin was walking around the shiny new car admiring its beauty. "Is this your car, Mister?" he asked. Paul nodded; "Yes, my brother gave it to me for Christmas." "You mean your brother gave it to you and it didn't cost you nuthin? Gosh, I wish . . . ." He hesitated, and Paul knew what he was going to wish. He was going to wish he had a brother like that. But what the lad said jarred Paul all the way down to his heels. "I wish," the boy went on, "that I could be a brother like that."

Paul looked at the boy in astonishment, then impulsively he asked, "Would you like to ride in my new automobile?" "Oh, yes, I'd love that."

After a short ride the lad turned to Paul and with his eyes aglow said, "Mister, would you mind driving in front of my house down the street there?" Paul smiled a little. He thought he knew what the boy wanted. He wanted to show his neighbors that he could ride home in a big, fine car. But Paul was wrong again.

"Will you please stop right where those two steps are, Mister?" the boy asked. Paul stopped and the lad got out and ran up the steps. Then, in a little while, Paul heard him coming back down the stairs again, but he wasn't coming fast. He was carrying his little polio-crippled brother. He sat him down on the bottom step and sort of squeezed up against him, and pointed to the new car. "There she is, Buddy, just like I told you upstairs. His brother gave it to him for Christmas and it didn't cost

(Turn the Page)

him a cent. And some day I'm gonna give you one just like it. Then you can see for yourself all the pretty things in the Christmas windows I've been trying to tell you about."

Paul got out and lifted the little cripped lad to the front seat. The shiny-eyed older brother climbed in beside him, and the three of them began a memorable holiday ride together.

That Christmas Eve, Paul learned what Jesus meant when He said, "IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE . . . ."—submitted by Mount Olive College

LEAD THE LOST

"O Lord, look after all those who get lost at Christmas:

"Little folks lost in stores, running about in panic crying for their mothers, and big folks lost in the confusion of crowded parties and crowded lives, with drugs and drink and sex and mistaken goals. Send the cold, clean Christmas spirit soaring through us, Lord, so bright and high and shining that we won't need anything else.

"And husbands and wives lost to each other through habit and neglect and misunderstanding, and sons and daughters lost to their parents. And men lost in prison camps, and ships lost at sea. And pets who are lost and hungry out in the cold.

"Have mercy on all Your lost creatures, Lord: men and women, child and beast. Reach out your arms to us, lead us gently back into the warm shelter of the stable. Let us gaze upon the miracle of the manger. Let us become one with it, drawing new hope from it, and a sense of new worth so that we know we are all very dear to You, so that we are less likely to stray."—Marjorie Holmes

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations,** Walter B. Knight.

THE ROAD OF FAITH

Many roads lead to Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph journeyed from Nazareth along roads crowded by people from many villages, who, at the command of Caesar, were to be enrolled. The wise men crossed the desert wastelands. The shepherds sought new wonders along the familiar hometown byways. But the first road to Bethlehem is unlike all other roads. It is the highway of preparation, spanning time and circumstance. It is the high road of the spirit.

Christmas did not just happen. For centuries, men had anticipated Christmas in their hearts, looking forward eagerly to that hour of destiny when in the fulness of time God would reveal Himself in a more wondrous way than ever before.

The road of faith is an ancient road—and at times a dangerous and a narrow one. It was not always crowded nor were there always travelers upon it, yet along it moved men of adventurous spirit and women of the pilgrim heart.

Long before Christmas, God prepared His people. How the words of the prophets radiate the faith in the coming of the Wonderful Counsellor and the Prince of Peace! How the lives of men were changed, generation after generation, as men of faith journeyed toward the day of hope! The way of the Lord was built with human sighs and human aspirations, and at the end of the road was a manger. From that manger lead all the roads of our lives.

God guided many faithful people to Bethlehem. He still guides all who will follow His guidance.

Lord of the far horizons
Give us the eyes to see
Over the verge of sundown
The beauty that will be
Give us the skill to fashion
The task of Thy command
Eager to follow the pattern
We may not understand.

—Bliss Carman

DECEMBER 26th

by Nancy Frost Rouse

"Merry Christmas" doesn't mean much today with the rush and excitement over.

The children are huddled, tired in their beds dreaming the dreams that almost came true.

The lights on the tree are still on tonight, but the magic has somehow escaped.

Too suddenly, rudely, we have returned to the daily routine of the dead—the dying old year, the death of our mirth, the things we wish we had said.

No shopping to do, for those that we love have scattered in different directions, and here we sit, the house all aclutter with the tatters of great expectations.

Sadly, we feel there should have been more than the bells, the smiles, and the holly—something to stay warm in our hearts to remind us that Christmas is holy.

SPRIGS OF PINE
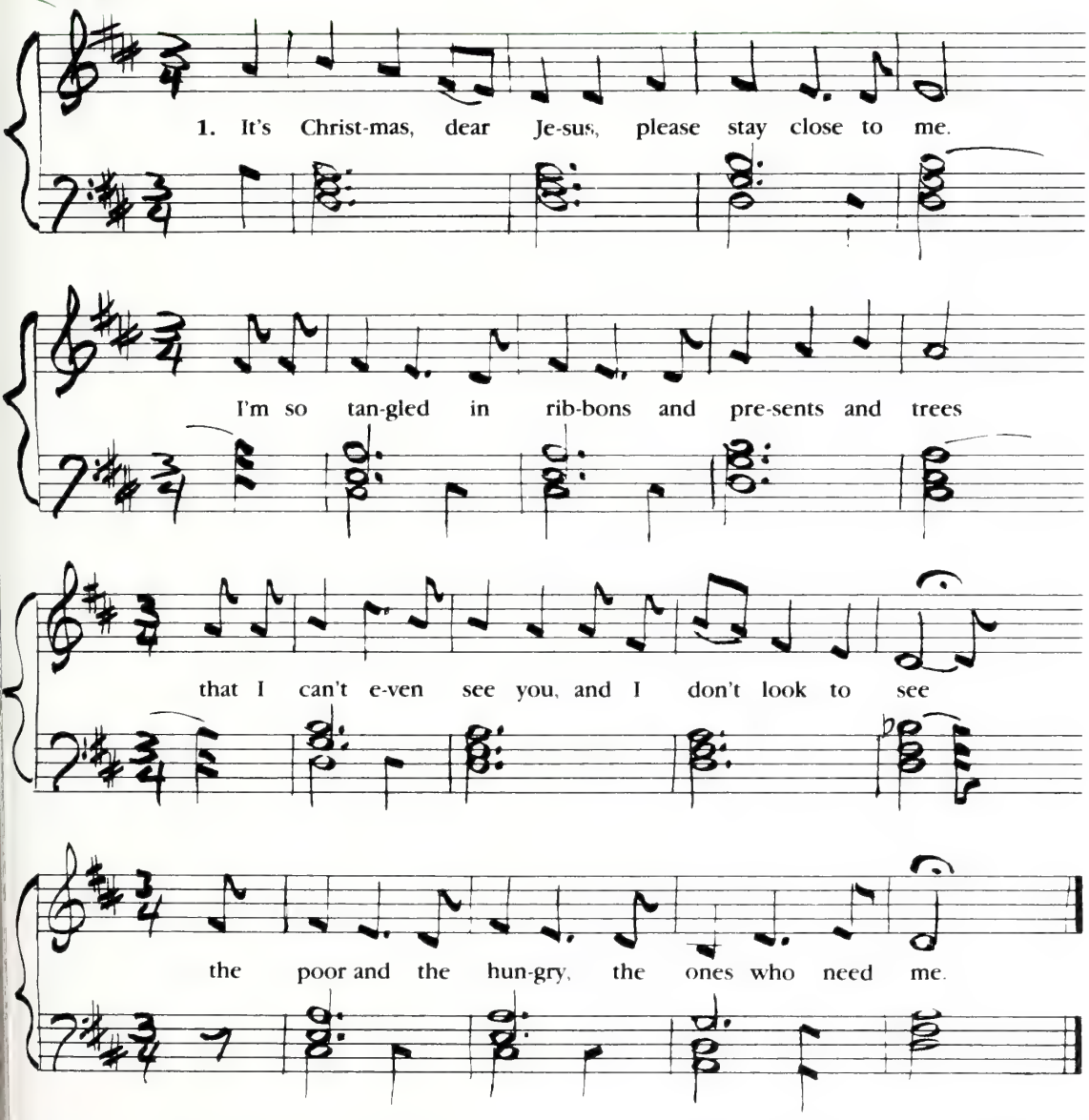
The cover and pages of this edition are adorned with sprigs of pine. These pictures serve as simple yet subtle reminders of the real reason for Christmas, for evergreen trees bear a silent testimony of the meaning of the Christian faith. The evergreen's perennial greenness symbolizes both life eternal and the length of man's days, the Resurrection and immortality. The pine cones center our thoughts on the Crucifixion; and the red berries remind us of the blood Christ shed on the Cross for the remission of our sins. Nothing brings to our hearts the buoyant Christmas joy as effectively as Christ's assurance that one day we will rise up on wings of faith and forever dwell in the presence of God.

May we anticipate that time when beneath the Tree of Life we shall look upon Him whom we have seen in only a dim and reflected glory.

AN ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS CAROL

It's Christmas, dear Jesus

by Becky Will



2. It's Christmas, holy Jesus, don't let me forget
how you love all these poor ones who are with us yet.
But they won't have any Christmas if I don't share your wealth.
They won't know that you came, Lord, if I don't give myself.

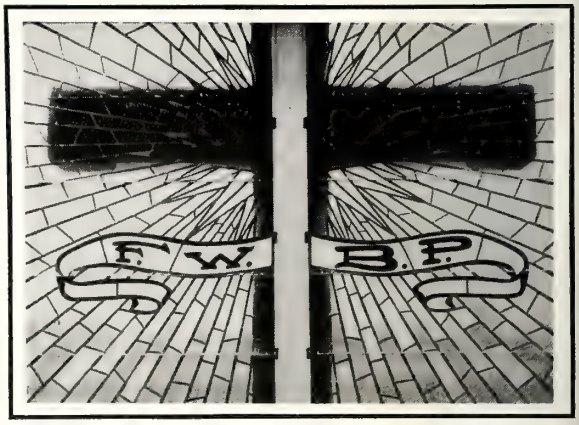
3. It's Christmas, my Jesus. You were once hungry, too—
so poor and so lonely. What can I do
to feed all the hungry like I'd have fed you?
Please teach me, my Jesus, the things I must do.

4. *This* Christmas, Lord Jesus, please give me the strength
to do all you ask me without a complaint.
To do all for loving the things that you are;
to serve you like the wise men who followed your star

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision* magazine (December, 1981).

The Rev. Walter Reynolds— A Man We Love and Respect

The Rev. Walter Reynolds came to us 15 years ago. A man of sound doctrine and good judgment, he has served as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation since 1966. Because of his able leadership and other qualities too numerous to name, we have come to depend on him for both advice and counsel. As the days of his retirement approach, we want to say "thank you" once more.



A Glance Backwards



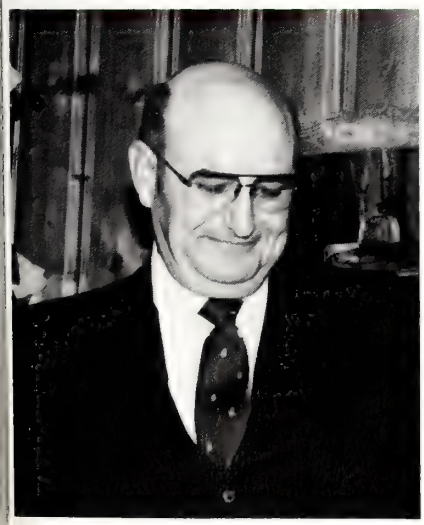
This photo was taken during a stockholders meeting held on September 6, 1954. Those pictured are Leon Dunn, J. W. Alford, Bruce Barrow, D. W. Hansley, M. L. Johnson, Owen Thomas, an unidentified gentleman, Kirby West, R. N. Hinnant, J. C. Griffin, S. A. Smith, J. R. Forrest, **Walter Reynolds,** *Dan Beaman, C. J. Harris, D. W. Alexander, C. K. Dunn, James A. Evans, Levi Hill, Herndon Boykin, and Joe Ange. Even then Mr. Reynolds' interest in the Foundation was evident.*



The old Free Will Baptist Press building, located on the corner of Second Street and East Avenue, was purchased in 1941.



Those taking part in the March 15, 1967, groundbreaking ceremony of the new Press building were (from left to right) the Revs. Robert May, Fred Powers, Melvin Everington, Hubert Burress, Walter Reynolds (who became manager in 1966), Wilbert Everton, D. W. Hansley, and R. N. Hinnant.



The first time his name appeared in the masthead of *The Free Will Baptist* as manager of the Foundation was September 14, 1966; and since that time, Mr. Reynolds has worked quite hard to insure the success of the Free Will Baptist Press. When he began his work, the Press was located in the middle of Ayden; it now operates out of a modern facility on North Lee Street, where it has been since December, 1967. When he began his work, the Foundation ran a small bookstore in Ayden; it now operates branch stores in Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, as well as the one in the Ayden facility. Yes, we have come a long way under his leadership, and we appreciate all he has done—more than he'll ever know.

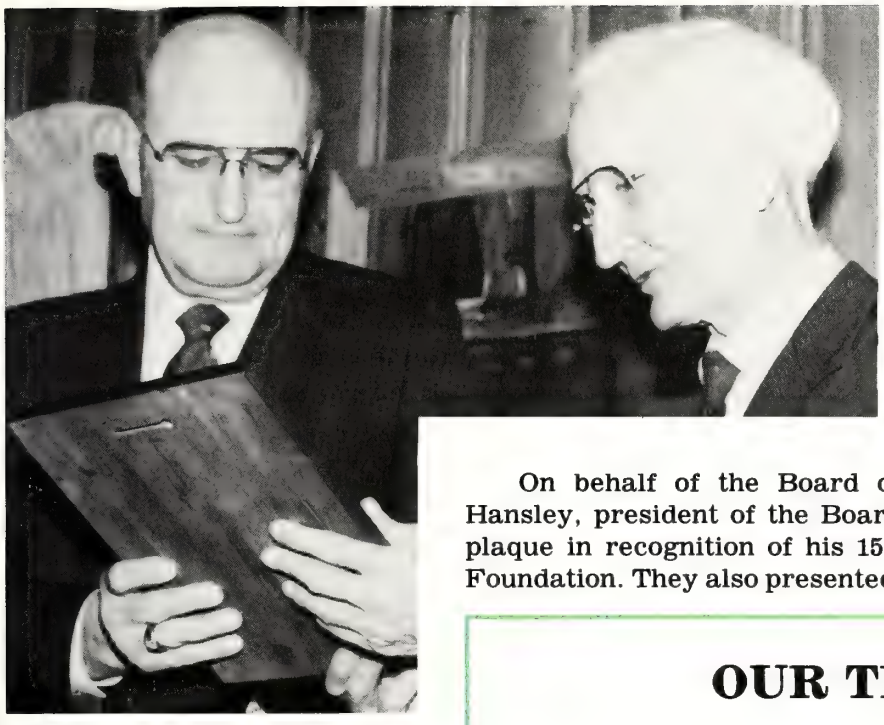
MANAGER HONORED AT ANNUAL DINNER

The Rev. Walter Reynolds was honored at the annual Christmas dinner held on December 8, 1981. This year's party provided the Board of Directors and the employees of the Press an opportunity to thank Mr. Reynolds for his service.



The employees of the Press remembered Mr. Reynolds with gift certificates and a scrapbook showing highlights of his fifteen-year career as manager.





On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Rev. David W. Hansley, president of the Board, presented Mr. Reynolds with a plaque in recognition of his 15 years of Christian service to the Foundation. They also presented him with the tribute shown below.





OUR TRIBUTE

Walter Reynolds

"Well done" are the words that describe the job done by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, who will be leaving the Free Will Baptist Press December 31, 1981.

For fifteen years he served the Press and served well. We have seen a small institution grow under his leadership into something that is nothing short of a miracle.

With the total program of the Press at heart, he has been keenly aware that only by God's grace and direction could such success have been obtained. The real accomplishments will never be known this side of Heaven. Under his direction a beautiful building was erected—new and better equipment obtained, and the bookstores have enhanced the ministry of the Press. Yet, the lives touched by the message of the printed page far outweigh the tangible assets of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

This man has worked well with the Board of Directors and the entire staff. With each suggestion to the Board he had at heart and mind his Lord, the Free Will Baptist denomination, the employees and the thousands of loyal supporters without whom success could not have been achieved.

We say "Thanks" to the Rev. Walter Reynolds for his Christian life, his unwavering faith and his ability to lead the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. to an even greater institution of which we can be proud to be a part. His ability to smile and be calm in difficult situations is a charactertistic that few men possess. As some of the employees have said, "Mr. Reynolds has been more than manager, he has been our friend."

We give God the praise and honor due Him for raising up such a one to fill the gap and fill it well.

Board of Directors



MR. REYNOLDS— OUR FRIEND

Mr. Reynolds, you have stood by us in good times and in times of trouble. You have led, directed, advised, and counseled us. Few people possess the qualities you do; even fewer could withstand the trials you have withstood.

There are many things we would like to say, but words fail us. Please know we appreciate and love you. Our prayer is that God will continue to richly bless you and Mrs. Reynolds. And above all, please know that you are more than our boss—now and forever more, you are our friend.

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The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation

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News and Notes

Special Services at Mount Zion Church

On December 6, 1981, a dedication service was held at Mount Zion Church of Roper, North Carolina, by the pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton, at the 11 a.m. worship hour.

Many things had been bought and some things had been given to the church. More land had been purchased a year ago by the church, and also an organ was purchased. Everyone had worked together to buy the carpet and cushions for the pews. Mr. Overton and his wife had given new offering plates, and a new yard light had been installed.

After the congregation sang "Is Your All on the Altar?" the ladies quartet sang a special, "Closer to You, Lord."

Mr. Overton read for his Scripture John 10:22: "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter." The topic of his message was "Our Dedication to the Lord's Work."

The pastor then dedicated all things unto the Lord, and the congregation responded that they had done all for the glory of God, in all sincerity, with love for God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

After his inspiring message, the invitational hymn, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" was sung. The altar was filled with young and old alike coming to dedicate their lives to the service of the Lord and His work.

Crab Point Church Has Special Services



Crab Point Church

Crab Point Church, Morehead City, North Carolina, held special services on November 8, 1981, during the 11 a.m. worship hour to dedicate the church parking lot. This has been a great need for several years with such limited space around the church.

The parking lot was purchased in 1979 at a cost of $19,000. On November 1, 1981, at the homecoming services the amount of $1,500 was raised to pay off the parking lot debt. The church had an overflowing attendance, many who were charter members of the church. The pastor, the Rev. Roland Cherry, chose for the theme of his message Matthew 16:18, 19, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

With the congregation taking part in the service, the service of dedication was read responsively. Kerry Buck sang a solo, "Bless This House."

The entire service was a very moving and spiritual experience. At the close of the service the pastor, the official board, and the congregation gathered on the parking lot to complete the program. As the note was burned, the pastor added remarks and the benediction.

It was a joyful experience as the people began to reminisce in the warm noontime sun how God has blessed the church through the years.



The Board of Deacons: Robert Davis, Roland Buck, Henry Smith, Terry Buck, and Tom Bennett, with their pastor, the Rev. Roland Cherry.

(Turn the Page)



The Board of Deacons and part of the congregation

Sandy Plain Church To Host Youth Fellowship

The Third District Youth Fellowship will be held at Sandy Plain Church, between Beulaville and Pink Hill, on December 31, at 7:30 p.m. After a break, everyone will go into the watch night services. The Limestone Singers will be in charge of special singing and there will be a New Year's breakfast. Everyone is invited to attend.

NOTICE

The Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet on January 12, 1982, at 10 a.m. at the Free Will Baptist Press. Any person having business with them should come at this time.

Royce Reynolds, *Secretary*

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Harry A. Jones announces that he is available for pastoral, supply, and/or evangelistic services. He may be contacted by writing him at Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526; phone 527-3262.

The Rev. James R. Owens is available first and third Sundays for pastoral services. He may be contacted at 105 Kathryn Lane, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; phone 752-1556.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR

All of us at Home Missions and Church Extension wish you all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year.** We are very thankful for your prayers and support.

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Dean Kennedy, Promotional Assistant
Treva Kennedy, Bookkeeper

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David W. Hansley
Floyd Burkey
Jack Penny
Earl Glenn

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Taylor Hill	HAYMOUNT, Fayetteville
Alton Howard	CATALPA, Fayetteville
Ronnie Hall	AGAPE, Raleigh
Ed Painter	EASTOVER, Fayetteville
Roger Heath	FAITH, Leland
Harry Brown	FAITH, Durham
(No Pastor)	HERITAGE, Charlotte

Mount Olive College

TWO NEW MINISTERIAL STUDENTS ENROLL AT MOC



Buddy (middle) and Ollie Bell Rogerson (right) are pictured with Frank Harrison, Chaplain of Mount Olive College (left).

"A call to preach is a call to prepare"—a statement made by the late Rev. Lloyd Vernon, the first President of Mount Olive College—applies to the lives of two new students at Mount Olive College.

James Melvin (Buddy) Rogerson from Saint Paul Church and David Vesper from Sound View Church will be enrolled as ministerial students for the spring semester. Vesper is the first ministerial student from Sound View to attend Mount Olive College.

Both men have expressed a desire to prepare themselves for the ministry and to grow spiritually through the process of a Christian education.

In response to the question, "Why do you want to attend Mount Olive?" Rogerson replied, "I believe that Mount Olive College has the right programs, faculty, spirit, and love to help me grow from a 'mustard seed to a mighty tree.' "

Vesper answered, "I feel that Mount Olive is the best school to help me prepare for my calling."

Rogerson and his wife, Ollie Bell, plan to move to Mount Olive from their home in Elizabeth City. They have two children.

Vesper and his wife, Roxie, will live at home in Newport while he commutes to Mount Olive. Vesper is an employee of Blue Bell, Inc. They also have two children.



David Vesper (left) and his wife, Roxie (right), visited Mount Olive College recently.

JOHNSTON COUNTY STUDENTS VISIT MOC

Six Johnston County students from Pine Level Church recently visited Mount Olive College with their pastor, the Rev. Donald Coates.

Like many high school students, Rhonda Staton, Pam Crocker, Wanda Jones, Lisa Watson, Lee Creech, and Mark Jones are already making plans for their college education. At Mount Olive, they met with Mrs. Dianne Riley, associate director of admissions, in order to tour the campus and learn more about the unique program of Christian education available at the college.

Groups of high school students from Free Will Baptist churches are always welcome at Mount Olive College. Although an appointment is not

(Continued on Page 19)



Family Devotions

Sunday, December 27

"YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS"

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 1:21

What's in a name? For the ancient peoples, a great deal! A person's name had great significance and meaning. One's name was an expression of who that person was deep inside, that is, his essential character. The name of Jesus, therefore, reveals the essential nature of God. The Christian faith proclaims that in Jesus we see the fullest revelation of God.

What kind of God does Jesus reveal? A God of salvation, love, and mercy! "Jesus" is the English equivalent of the Hebrew name of Joshua. The English form of "Jesus" comes through the Latin and Greek forms. "Jesus" means, as Matthew points out, that "God is salvation, or God saves, or God will save." A more fitting name for the Christ Child could not be imagined! Through His life and death, the grace and love of God have come into human life bringing healing and wholeness. In Jesus, we not only see the human being we are called to be in complete fellowship with God, we are also enabled to begin becoming that person. In Jesus, God has restored the fellowship between Himself and humanity which had been broken by sin. Indeed, we can sing:

"Jesus is the sweetest name I know;
And He's just the same,
As His lovely name.
And that's the reason why I love Him so,
O, Jesus, is the sweetest name I know."

Monday, December 28

CHRIST JESUS

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 16:16; Luke 2:11; Romans 1:1, 8:1

Jesus was called the Christ. Christ means "the anointed one" or, in other words, "the Messiah." The Jews expected a mighty king in the lineage of David, who would establish a perfect and permanent reign on earth characterized by peace, prosperity, justice, and righteousness. He would be God's Anointed One. In the Old Testament, the high priest and the king were anointed as they assumed office. This symbolized that they were chosen by and empowered by God. We can see the baptism of Jesus as His anointing by God through the Spirit and in the pronouncement: ". . . Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11). So, for the early Christians to say, "Christ Jesus," was to say that "Jesus is Messiah."

At first, Christ was a title given to Jesus but in time Christ became another name for or surname of Jesus. For example, Paul used Christ and Jesus interchangeably. When he said Christ he also meant Jesus and when he said Jesus he also meant Christ.

So, when we say "Christ Jesus," we are confessing that Jesus is the One chosen by God to establish God's Kingdom. But what kind of kingdom did He establish? How did He establish it? Was Jesus the kind of Messiah that was commonly expected? Just what kind of Messiah is Jesus to you?

Tuesday, December 29

JESUS IS LORD

Scripture Lesson: Romans 10:9, 10

"Jesus is Lord" was the first and foremost confession of faith for the early Christians. The idea of lordship is rather foreign to us. In the days of Jesus, the Lord was first of all seen as the God of the Old Testament. To call Jesus "Lord" was to identify Him with God. But a lord was also seen as the master or owner of servants. The servants or slaves belonged to him. Their lord had complete authority over them. He controlled every aspect of their lives. They were totally at his command. In light of this, can we truthfully say that Jesus is Lord of our lives? Does He have our supreme

loyalty and service? Is He the one we most admire and respect? Is our whole life under His Lordship?

Paul teaches that to truthfully be able to say this is the test of salvation (Romans 10:9). He also teaches that we can say it through the work of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3). Also, there will come a time when everyone will say that "Jesus Christ is Lord" (Philippians 2:11). He is Lord! Is He, really?

Wednesday, December 30

DISCIPLESHIP

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 16:24

> The only man who has the right to say that he is justified by grace alone is the man who has left all to follow Christ. Such a man knows that the call to discipleship is a gift of grace, and that the call is inseparable from the grace.—(Dietrich Bonhoeffer in *The Cost of Discipleship)*

These words were written by a man in a Nazi concentration camp. He was eventually executed by special order of Himmler at the concentration camp at Flossenburg on April 9, 1945, only a few days before it was captured by the Allies. Here was a Christian who knew and gave the cost of discipleship. The grace which has brought our salvation was costly. The Son of God gave His life! He calls us to accept the benefits of His self-sacrifice, without cost to us. After all, what could or have we done to earn it? But the call to salvation is at the same time the call to "follow me." A "costly grace" calls forth from us a costly discipleship, not as a pre-condition for the reception of the grace but as the natural response of the person to such "costly grace." If one can separate the call to discipleship from the call to salvation, then one has not fully understood or experienced the grace behind the calls. To accept the call to salvation is to accept the call to discipleship! They cannot be separated!

Thursday, December 31

HUMILITY

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 7:1-5

> A man is humble when he stands in the truth with a knowledge and appreciation for himself as he really is. And actually, anyone who saw and experienced himself as he really and truly is would have no difficulty being humble, for two things would become very clear to him. In the first place, he would see clearly the degradation, misery and weakness of the human condition . . . In the second place, he would recognize the transcendent goodness of God as He is in Himself and His overflowing, superabundant love for man."—*(The Cloud of Unknowing)*

If we see ourselves as God sees us, with all our weaknesses, faults, and sins, yet know that God loves and accepts us anyway, how does this influence our perception of others?

Friday, January 1

LEANING ON EACH OTHER

Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7; Galatians 6:1, 2

One day while driving down the highway I noticed a forest of pine trees. They had been planted in neat rows and were all about the same height. Occasionally, I saw two or three trees which had fallen but not to the ground. Perhaps they had a disease, had been struck by lightning, or did not have sound rooting. These trees were leaning against the other trees which were tall, straight, and strong. The strong ones held up the weak ones.

This is what Christ calls us to do. We all have leaned and will continue to lean on each other. How many times we would have fallen completely if not for the strong faith, patience, and love of family and Christian friends. Let us not be afraid to lean upon each other nor fear to be leaned upon. How can our family and our church lean more upon each other?

Saturday, January 2

WHO IS THY NEIGHBOR?

Scripture Lesson: Luke 10:29-37

On December 7, 1975, Joseph R. Balliant Jr., a motorcyclist, counted 900 cars that passed him after he had a bad accident and had crawled 800 yards up an embankment to the road. He had a fractured hip, a broken arm, nose, and foot. After 900 people passed by, one good Samaritan finally stopped.

Who is our neighbor? What is our responsibility to the needy all around us? Have we been passing by or ignoring those broken, beaten, depressed, needy people of whom we come into contact every day? How can we be good Samaritans to them?

This month's *Family Devotions* are being written by the Rev. Bass Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell is pastor of Core Creek Church in Cove City.

NO BAPTIST

In accordance with our policy of printing only forty-eight issues of *The Free Will Baptist* each year, there will not be an edition on December 30. This is our last issue for the year 1981. Our next issue will be dated January 6, 1982.

December is Foreign Missions Month.



The Sunday School Lesson

JESUS AS LORD

Lesson Text: John 20:26-29
Memory Verse: Acts 2:36

I. INTRODUCTION

The blackest day in history was soon followed by the brightest day. The death of Jesus was followed by His Resurrection, and that event happened one week prior to the event in the first part of our lesson today.

Jesus' Resurrection was not a secret. He made at least five appearances on the very first day: (1) to Mary (Mark 16:9, 10; John 20:11-18); (2) to the women (Matthew 28:9); (3) to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32); (4) to Peter (Luke 24:33, 34); (5) to the apostles and others who were with them (Luke 24: 36-40).

However, Thomas, who was one of the twelve, was not with the apostles when Jesus appeared (John 20:24). Some have commented that the problem with Thomas was not so much his skepticism as it was his absenteeism. Significant things happen in the togetherness of God's people that cannot happen to one who wants to be a "Lone Ranger" Christian. The things that happen within the fellowship of a congregation cannot really be appreciated by just hearing a committee report on it.

The apostles tried to explain to Thomas what they had experienced, but he did not share their enthusiasm: "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe" (20:25). But before we come down too hard on "doubting" Thomas and single him out from the rest, let us consider the Scripture. Thomas may have been the one to believe most quickly.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINT THAT HELPS

If you look up the word "lord" in the dictionary, you will find that it came from the old English *hlaf* and *weard,* that is, "keeper of the loaf." A lord thus had power and authority over others through ownership of the means of feeding his servants or of withholding bread to punish them, hence the senses of ruler or master to whom obedience is due. Therefore, to call Jesus "Lord" is to not only recognize His ownership of us, but also to recognize that He has the right to control our lives.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In the past month's lessons we have seen Jesus as the Son of God, the Son of man, Saviour, and Messiah. Today we look at Him as Lord.

B. The use of the term "Lord" as related to Jesus Christ is of the greatest importance. If He is our Saviour, He should be our Lord. The correct rendering of Romans 10:9 is: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth *Jesus as Lord,* and shalt believe in thine heart . . . thou shalt be saved." The title Lord denotes the strong truth that He is God himself, and that He was God in the flesh when He dwelt among men (John 1:1, 14). But the term signifies much more than that. If He is Lord in our lives He has the position of ruler in our lives. To confess Him as Lord is to say that we have committed all we are to Him, and that we look upon Him as King of our lives indeed.

C. Among the many places in the Scriptures where Jesus is recognized as Lord and God, perhaps one of the most outstanding is found in Hebrews 1:8, 10. Here Jesus is called God and Lord: ". . . unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever . . . ." "And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth . . . ." Bible-believing Christians will have no difficulty is recognizing Him as Lord; they just rejoice in it!

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Use another source to study next week's Sunday school lesson, as there will not be an issue of *The Free Will Baptist* on December 30. The January 10 lesson is based on Luke 22:24-27; the Memory Selection is John 3:16.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

been directed by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, a man we all love and respect. Within a few days, Mr. Reynolds will be retiring from his post as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and it is to him that we dedicate this issue.

We begin this edition with a Christmas menagerie—a collection of writings which we know will inspire you. A section dealing with Mr. Reynolds' career as our manager is located in the center of this issue. News of interest from churches and denominational enterprises, as well as Family Devotions and the Sunday School Lesson are in the back.

In conclusion, let me add, Christmas is as peaceful as Heaven, as joyful as sunrise, as beautiful as snowfall . . . as always as love. We are wishing you a beautiful Christmas and a New Year of peace and happiness.

Janie

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 15)

required, it is helpful in assuring the availability of specific persons.

Appointments for interviews can be made by contacting the Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365 (telephone 919-658-2502). The services of the admissions office are also available on Saturday by appointment.



Those visiting MOC were (from left to right, front row) Rhonda Staton, Pam Crocker, Wanda Jones, and (standing) Lisa Watson. The Rev. Donald Coates is standing on the left. Mike Jones (second row) is a student at the college; seated next to him are Lee Creech and Mark Jones. Perry Johnson (seated alone), a student at MOC, assisted with the tour of the campus.

COMING EVENTS

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 24—Mount Olive Chorus and Singers will appear on Christmas Carousel televised on WITN-TV, Channel 7, Washington, at 11 p.m.

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

December 25—Christmas Day

January—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Retirement Homes Month

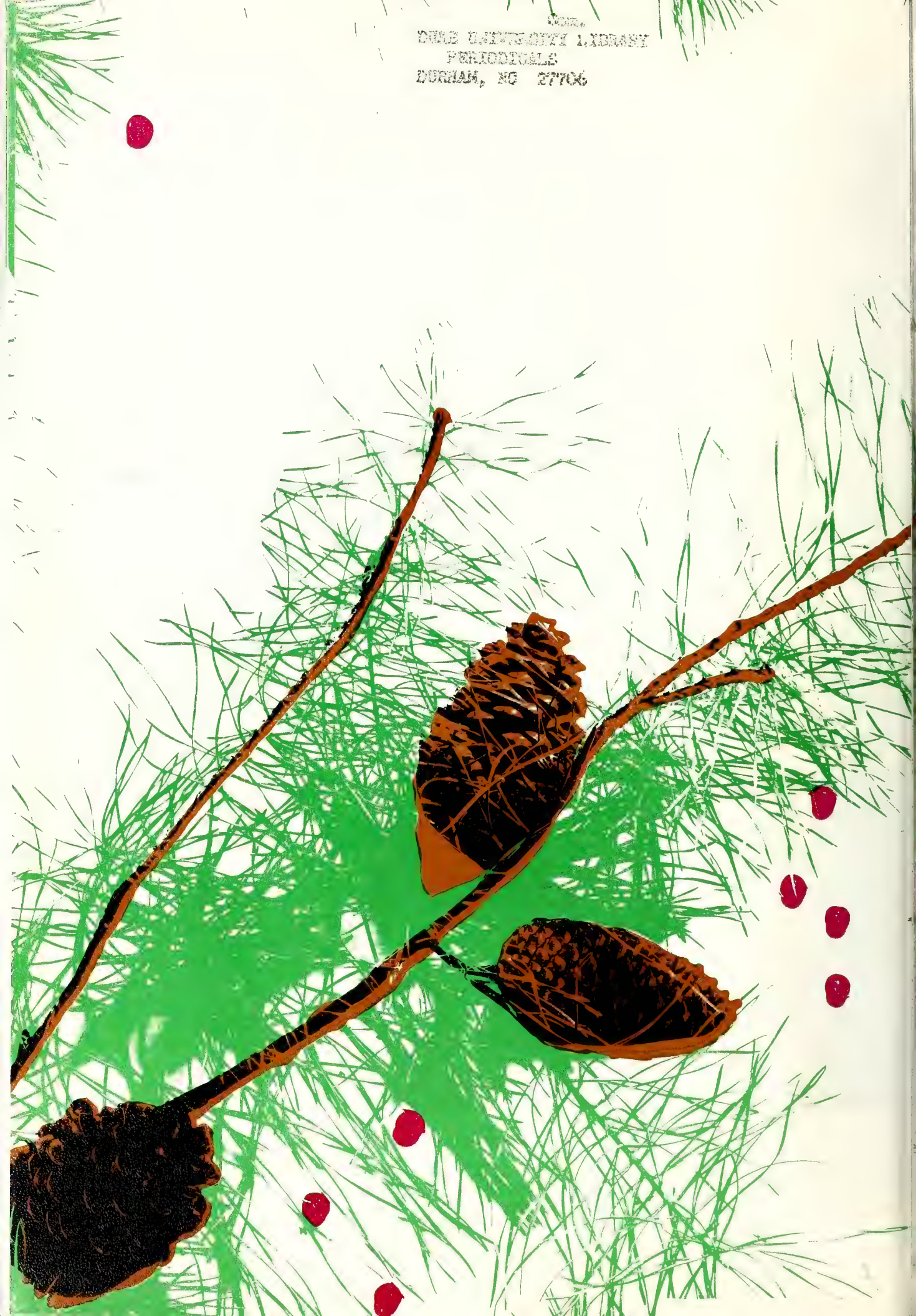
January 1—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and its Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

January 12—Spring Semester begins at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive



The Foreign Missions Board, and an all our missionaries pray that you have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a most prosperous NEW YEAR.

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